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REGIONAL DEFENSIVE TREATY FOR PACIFIC Discussions Now Going On In Commonwealth Nations LIKE ATLANTIC PACT

Canberra, March 14.

Discussions are now going on for the conclusion of a Pacific regional defence pact, embracing non-British as well as British countries, the Australian Defence Minister, Mr. John Dedman, stated here today.

RANGOON'S OFFER TO KARENS

Rangoon, March 14.
Burma's rebellious Karens in an autonomous state of their own today as reports reached Rangoon that the Karens have captured all of Mandalay.

A Rangoon newspaper said the Karens have captured all of Mandalay in a three-day battle with Government forces. The Burmese Government admitted yesterday that part of Mandalay had been taken by the rebels. Mandalay, with a population of 200,000, is 500 miles North of Rangoon on the Irrawaddy River.

The newspaper which reported the city in Karens hands is "Voice of the Peace" and it added that fighting is still going on outside the city, mainly along the banks of the Irrawaddy River.

It also reported that the Karens are attacking the city of Sagaing, across the river from Mandalay. The Government, meanwhile, announced its acceptance of recommendations for creation of a separate Karen state within the Burma union.

The Government said that boundaries of the new state will be determined by a plebiscite.

The Government also announced an amnesty for Karens in Insein, a suburb of Rangoon, provided they lay down their arms by Thursday.

Rebels in other parts of Burma are called on to surrender by March 31 on similar terms.

The Government statement said that a 14-man protection committee headed by the Chief Justice, Sir Ba U, will supervise the collection of arms and provide protection for the surrendering rebels.—Associated Press.

Mr. Dedman added that Britain has taken an active part in the talks. The pact, he said, will be similar to the Atlantic defence pact. Mr. Dedman's announcement came a few hours after Lord Listowel, British Minister of State for Colonial Affairs, had arrived at Darwin on his way for talks with the Australian and New Zealand Governments.

An authoritative source told Reuters in Melbourne on Saturday that the main purpose of the talks will be to establish Empire defence zones and that altogether seven Dominion countries are taking part in similar talks with British experts during the next week. After these discussions, a conference of Prime Ministers will be held in London, the source said.

CHINA URGED TO REMAIN - NEUTRAL

Shanghai, March 14.
Dr. Sun Fo, Nationalist outgoing Premier, urged China to take a neutral stand in the event of a third world war in a week-end statement quoted by Chinese newspapers this morning.

He was reported to have said that, from the standpoint of the Chinese people, China at present should neither be anti-United States nor anti-Soviet.

He attributed the lack of satisfactory results from China's past foreign policy to the deterioration of relations between the wartime Allies, which affected the China situation.

Dr. Sun Fo added that China was not responsible for this state of world affairs. Asked what would emerge of the Chinese Coalition Government, he said: "I am not a prophet."—Reuters.

Wide Field

"There are many problems to be ironed out before the matter has reached the stage where anything useful can be said publicly about it."

"We would like to see the membership of the pact spread over as wide a field as possible, including countries on the other side of the Pacific, as well as countries on this side. It is a most desirable goal and one which we hope to see achieved."

Lord Listowel, who arrived in Sydney today on his way to Canberra, will deal with intimate details in connection with defence plans, according to authoritative sources.

He will confer informally with the Prime Minister, Mr. Chifley, today. Further talks, at which Mr. Dedman will be present, will be held tomorrow.

The Canberra correspondent of the "Sydney Daily Telegraph" reports that the forthcoming Canberra defence talks, envisage a strong defence system from Western Europe, across the Atlantic, through the Pacific, to the Indian Ocean.

Secret Talks

He added that it will mean that Australia and New Zealand will have a more important and more onerous job in the Pacific. Australia will play a bigger part in the Indian Ocean zone.

The correspondent, whose message is given prominence, stated that the proposed Pacific defence pact will probably include Canada, New Zealand, probably Mexico and some of the Central and Southern American nations.

"Unity among Britain, America and Australia on defence matters is growing. These three countries already have reached important decisions on the defence of the Pacific."

"British Commonwealth leaders will discuss these decisions at their conference in London or Ottawa next month."

Sir Frederick Shedden, Secretary of the Australian Defence Department, will shortly leave for London by air for highly secret talks with British officials, the correspondent added.

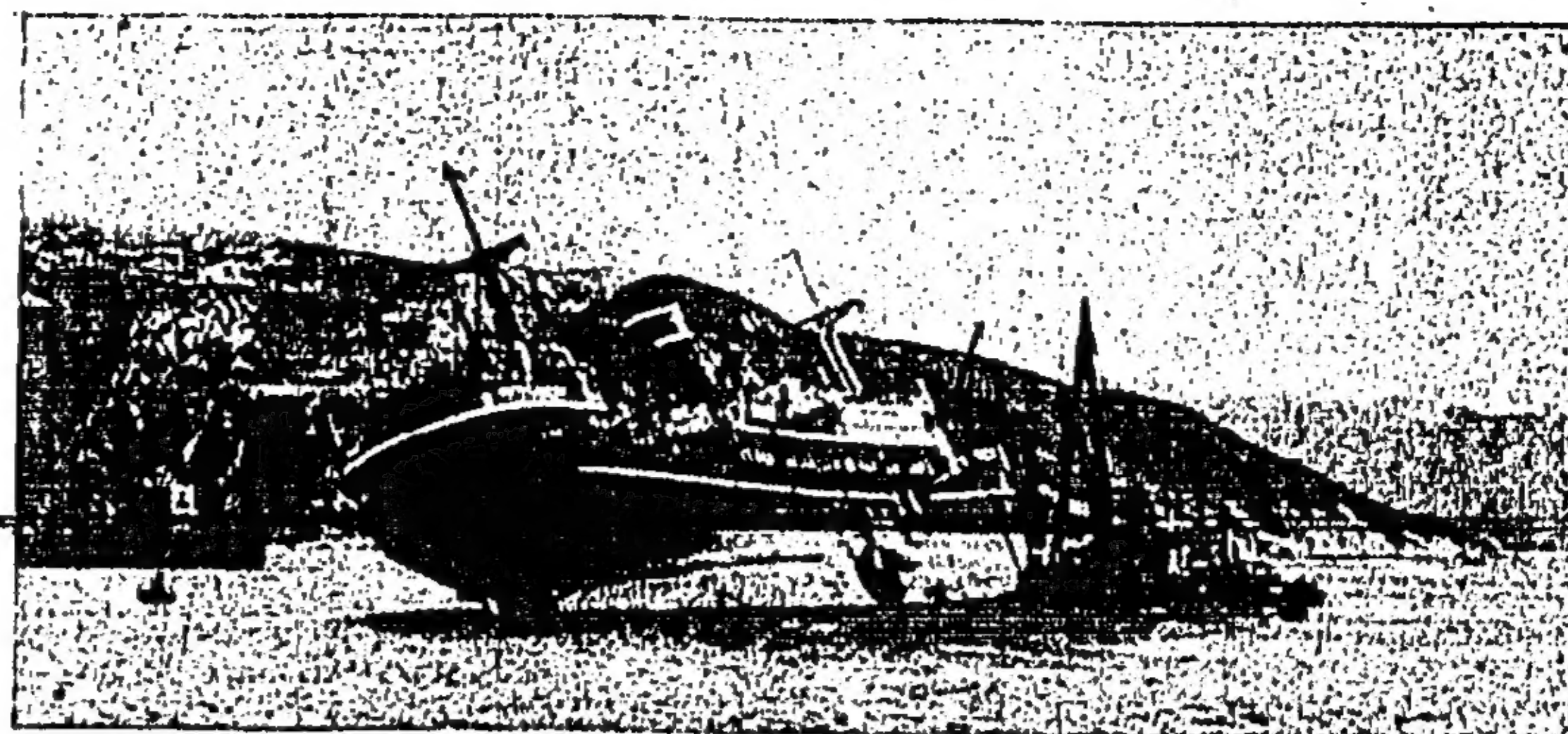
Authoritative sources in London today said the reports of a Pacific Pact were premature.

They said the main objective of the consultation of the four British envoys in the Commonwealth capitals was to convene a meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers before India's new constitution as an independent Republic comes into effect.

As far as official information is available in London is concerned, India, Pakistan and Ceylon have not been consulted on a Pacific Pact.—Reuters and United Press.

ON OTHER PAGES

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Damaged Ship in Harbour.
Wartime Land Sale Case.
Page 3
May Trial.
Page 12
Sports.



Lying about 200 yards off the Taikeo Dockyard and listing at an acute angle, the ss. Haven is being surveyed by divers after being towed into port with a split forepeak and waterlogged hold. The Chinese steamer, specially chartered by the IRO to evacuate OPs to the Philippines, struck a rock off Namkan Island, 10 miles South East of Waglan, last Sunday evening. No one was injured. ("China Mail" Photo).
(STORY ON PAGE 2)

Yuan Body's Decision To Impeach Sun Fo

Nanking, March 14.

A photostat copy of a letter, alleged to have been written by ex-Premier Sun Fo "for his beloved concubine, asking high-ranking officials to get back dyestuffs", said to belong to Miss Lan Li, was produced in the Control Yuan Committee by Mr. Chin Yeh-kwang, when the Committee decided to impeach Dr. Sun and his friend, Miss Lan Li.

Almost simultaneously with the decision to impeach Dr. Sun, the Control Yuan today decided not to proceed with 48 other cases in which it had decided to impeach Government officials.

Mr. Chin, who led the investigation into the allegations that Dr. Sun had attempted to get Japanese dyestuffs confiscated by the Controller of Enemy Property after the Pacific War, returned to Miss Lan Li, also produced a letter from an unnamed Minister in the Sun Fo Cabinet.

Both letters were said to have been addressed to Mr. Liu Kung-ying, former Governor of the Central Bank of China, who was dismissed from office by the Sun Fo Cabinet in January.

Mr. Chin read to the Yuan the alleged letter from Dr. Sun, in which he described the dyestuffs as belonging to his family, and asked that confiscation be investigated and the goods quickly returned.

The letter was said to have been signed: "I am grateful to you."

Mr. Chin was reported to have told the Yuan that the ex-Premier had acted "foolishly and illegally."

"If we did not severely punish him, how shall we eliminate public resentment and enhance the morale of our fighting forces?" he added.

The Control Yuan Committee decided on the impeachment by an 8-7 vote.

The five Control Yuan members who investigated the case have now submitted their report to the Yuan, which is expected to hold a meeting shortly to approve the committee's impeachment resolution.

The five members are Mr. Hsiung Tai-wei, Mr. Chin Yeh-kwang, Mr. Ni Pi, Mr. Ho Chichou and Mr. Yu Pei-huo.

The report is now still kept secret, but a reliable source leaked out the following details of the case.

Alleged Letters
Eighty-four drums of dyes belonging to Miss Lan Li, described as Dr. Sun Fo's friend, were auctioned by Government as puppet property. Miss Lan Li was considered a puppet because of her connections with China's top puppet, Chen Kung-po.

The former Prime Minister was alleged to have written to Dr. Sun Fo.

Biggest items in the 1949-50 Budget is HK\$37,832,100 under the heading of Miscellaneous Services, followed by HK\$10,618,000 (Public Works Extraordinary), HK\$12,250,877 (Subventions), HK\$12,633,722 (Police Force), HK\$12,632,000 (Public Works Recurrent), and HK\$12,601,935 (Medical Department).

Government intends to provide only HK\$5,085,335 for the Education Department. The approved estimate for the current financial year was HK\$12,124,138.

Details of the proposed expenditure follow:

The Governor, HK\$231,200; Agriculture Department, HK\$730,228; Audit Department, HK\$243,807; Civil Aviation Department, HK\$4,430; Colonial Secretariat and Legislature, HK\$1,094,828; Department of Commerce and Industry, HK\$1,270,078; Co-operatives and Marketing, HK\$7,927 for Fish Marketing Organisation, and HK\$7,882 for Vegetable Marketing Organisation; District Office New Territories, HK\$370,780; Education Department, HK\$5,085,335; Fire Brigade, HK\$1,104,164; Fisheries Department, HK\$259,890; Gardens Department, HK\$420,581; Hong Kong Regiment, HK\$2,260,503; B-Hong Kong Naval Force, HK\$209,263; Hong Kong Air Force, HK\$195,930;

Inland Revenue Department HK\$15,205; Kowloon Canton Railway HK\$44,695; Labour Department HK\$288,335; Legal Department HK\$70,874; Magistracies: A-Hong Kong Magistracy HK\$130,009; B-Kowloon Magistracy HK\$112,782; Marine Department HK\$2,622,137; Medical Department HK\$2,601,035; Miscellaneous Services HK\$7,832,100; Pensions HK\$720,000; Police Force HK\$12,632,722; Post Office, Broadcasting and Telecommunications: A-Post Office HK\$3,064,958; B-Broadcasting HK\$52,509; C-Telecommunications HK\$709,314; Public Department HK\$3,934,617; Public Debt HK\$480,814; Public Relations Office HK\$160,989; Public Works Department HK\$4,340,180; Public Works Recurrent HK\$2,632,000; Public Works Extraordinary HK\$10,618,000; Rating and Valuation Department HK\$169,901; Registrar General's Department HK\$169,760; Royal Observatory HK\$404,588; Sanitary Department and Urban Council HK\$572,180; Secretariat for Chinese Affairs: A-Secretariat for Chinese Affairs HK\$177,111; B-Social Welfare Office HK\$769,503; C-District Welfare Office HK\$189,009; Statistical Department HK\$128,420; Stores Department HK\$591,432; Subventions HK\$12,250,877; Department of Supplies and Distribution HK\$782,486; Supreme Court HK\$141,701; Treasury HK\$780,248; Custodian of Property HK\$2,000; Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes HK\$2,110,400; Total HK\$179,800,970.

King George VI's general condition remains satisfactory after his operation on Saturday, an official bulletin from Buckingham Palace said today.

"The King slept for the greater part of the night. His post-operative discomfort is lessening," the bulletin, signed by the King's six doctors, added.

The King had an operation of lumbar sympathectomy to improve the blood circulation in his right leg.

Today's bulletin, the fourth since Saturday, was issued after a shorter examination of the King than that made on Sunday. Court circles said that the bulletin can be regarded as completely satisfactory.—Reuters.

REDS SET FOR YANGTSE DRIVE

Shanghai, March 14.

After two months' intensive preparations, the Communist Commander, General Chen Yi, is all set for a major offensive to eliminate the remaining Nationalist bridgeheads on the North bank of the Yangtse River and begin a crossing attempt.

He is said to have completed the deployment of 300,000 troops grouped into 19 columns along the stretch of the river between Anking, 140 miles South West of Nanking, and Luwei, opposite the Nationalist fortress of Kiangyin, 85 miles North West of Shanghai.

The reports claim that at least four of these columns are "green," compared almost entirely of recruits without combat experience.

In addition to his own troops, General Chen Yi will have available as reinforcements 10 columns of General Liu Po-cheng's armies, which are at present operating in South Honan and East Hupei, and five columns of General Lin Piao's Manchurian troops.

The latter force was rumoured today to have already arrived at Hsuechow, in North Kiangsu, by rail from the Peiping area.

The major Communist concentration points are given in these unconfirmed despatches as Wuwei and Hsien in Anhwei province, to the North West of Nanking, and around Tsingking, Taichow, Taihang and Yangchow in Central Kiangsu.

Other official sources said the reports were merely speculation since the departure of the Government delegation would wait until the Communists announce their delegates and the time and place for the talks.

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Government Waiting For Nod From Reds

Nanking, March 14.

Mr. Shao Li-tai today denied press reports that the Government was preparing to proceed to Peiping within a week to begin talks with the Communists there.

Other official sources said the reports were merely speculation since the departure of the Government delegation would wait until the Communists announce their delegates and the time and place for the talks.

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Communist Trade Bureau In HK?

Two Chinese Communist administrations in North China are planning to establish a trade bureau in Hong Kong to facilitate business with foreign countries, the vernacular "New Life Evening Post" reported yesterday.

Quoting a recent arrival from North China, the newspaper said that the Communist administrations of North East China and North China had reached a mutual agreement on foreign trade.

The agreement includes provision for the purchase of a shipping tonnage of 30,000—ocean-going vessels from 4,000 tons upwards, and coastal and inland river ships of less than 5,000 tons.

The informant, according to the "New Life Evening Post," said that representatives of the two administrations have already arrived in Hong Kong to purchase the required shipping tonnage.

The agreement between the two governments also provides for the establishment in the British Colony of a joint trade bureau, presumably to make official purchases and sales, and generally, to facilitate trade between the "Liberated areas" in North China and foreign countries.

Plans for such an organisation in Hong Kong are still under consideration. Ships purchased in Hong Kong will be registered under the names of the two administrations and will fly the Chinese flag, and generally, to facilitate trade between the Kuomintang's national flag or the Hammer and Sickle, it was not stated.

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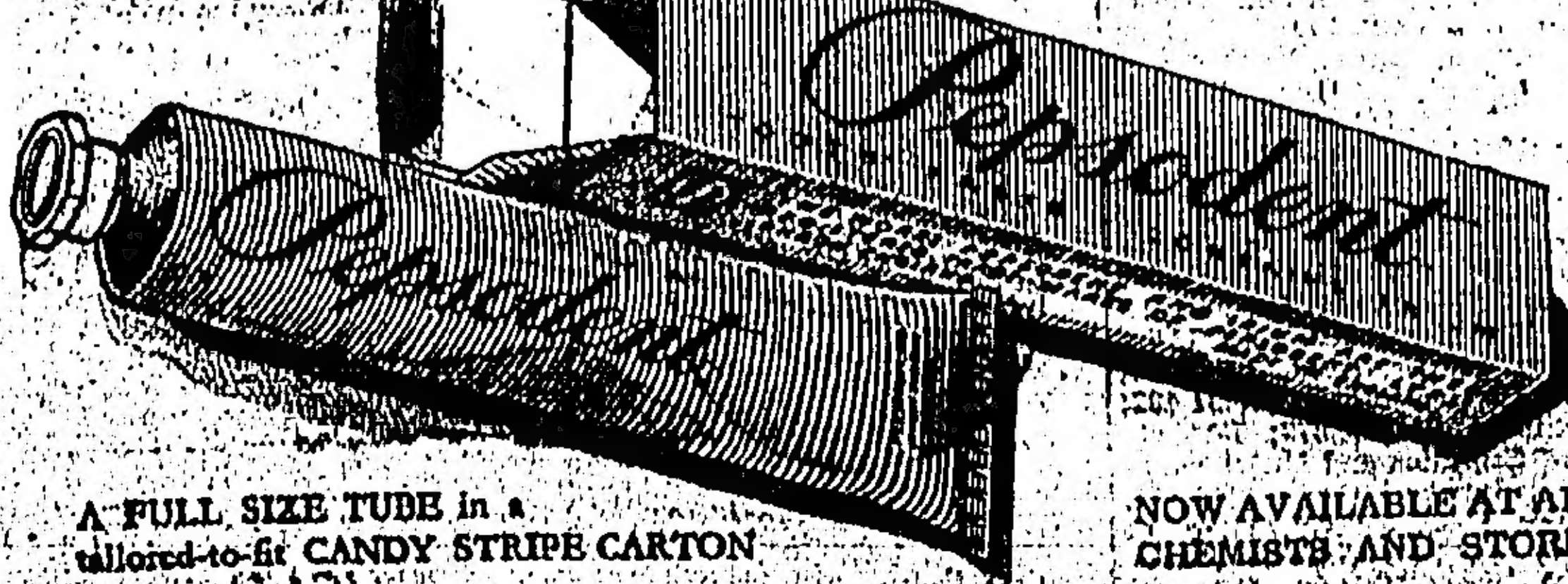
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ITS THE TALK OF THE TOWN, and from the top of the peak to Kowloon, side brighter smiles are flashing the news of this better tasting, brighter cleaning NEW FORMULA PEPSODENT. If you haven't already tried it, buy a tube today and see for yourself how this amazing new tooth paste removes the dingy film that makes teeth look dull—how it uncovers the natural brilliance of your smile—makes teeth brighter because they're whiter—IN JUST ONE WEEK!

TASTES BETTER...CLEANS BETTER

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*IRIUM in Pepsodent's registered trademark, and is found only in Pepsodent.



A FULL SIZE TUBE in a tailored-to-fit CANDY STRIPE CARTON

WARTIME LAND SALE DISPUTED IN ACTION

The sale of No. 184 Queen's Road Central during the Japanese occupation was disputed in an action before the Chief Justice, Sir Leslie Gibson, yesterday.

Tsui Chun, widow, residing at No. 172 Prince Edward Road, 2nd floor, the plaintiff in the action, claimed that she bought the property as far back as October 1912.

The sale of the property made by Fung Kwok-hing, representing himself as her agent or attorney, on February 20, 1945, was not recognised by her as, she said, Fung was at no time her attorney and he had no authority or right to assign the property or deal with it in any manner whatsoever.

She further stated that the assignment was made without her knowledge or consent, and claimed that defendants were in wrongful possession of the premises. She asked the Court for a declaration that the assignment made during the Japanese occupation is null and void and of no legal effect; that the defendants have no right or title to or interest

in the premises; and that she, plaintiff, as the sole beneficial owner of the premises, is entitled to possession. She claimed possession of the premises, income profits from date of the alleged wrongful assignment, until date of possession, costs of the present action, and further other relief.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Leo D'Almada, K.C., instructed by Mr. C.Y. Kwan.

Defence Statement

Defendants in the action were Lui Suet-ying and Tang Sing-po, stated in the claim as married women, residing at 2, Queen's Road West, 2nd floor. They bought the property from Fung Kwok-hing on February 20, 1945.

Both women were represented by Mr. H.G. Sheldon and Mr. B. A. Bernacchi, instructed by Mr. Peter H. Sin. In their statement of defence, Lui Suet-ying stated that she was a married woman residing at 11, Dragon Terrace, 1st floor, and Tang Sing-po claimed she was a widow residing at 45, Bonham Road, 2nd floor.

They admitted buying the property during the occupation, but they submitted that it was for plaintiff to prove that she was Tsui Chun in whom the premises became vested in the assignment.

They claimed that they were beneficial owners, having purchased the property by assignment through the attorney or agent of the owner. Mr. d'Almada, opening for the plaintiff, said two issues are involved in the case. The first is ownership of the property, in respect of which the onus of proof is on the plaintiff.

Onus Of Proof

The second issue is in regard to the assignment of the property during the Japanese occupation, and the onus of proof is on the defendants.

In support of his contention Mr. d'Almada quoted various authorities on the subject. Disputing this contention, Mr. Sheldon said such splitting of the issues and dealing with a case piecemeal, as it were, had been done in 25 years. If a case could be split into two issues, it could also be split into 20 issues.

The only issue in the case, submitted Mr. Sheldon, is whether there was a power of attorney, and, if so, whether it was forged or not.

After legal arguments by counsel on both sides, hearing was adjourned to 10 a.m. today for the Chief Justice to give a ruling on the point of onus of proof.

Licence Was Not Genuine

Li Hing, a shop-folk of 918 Canton Road, was charged with affecting a public mischief by making a false statement to the Police, at Central yesterday.

On March 18, Li presented a lorry driver's licence for renewal at the Traffic Office, Central Station. Investigation revealed that the licence was not genuine, but changed from a private car licence by erasing.

Before Mr. Hin-shing Lo, defendant pleaded that he was a licensed private car driver. He was offered a job as a lorry driver, and his friend suggested that he change the licence for him.

He was given a chance to identify his friend, but he refused.

Li was fined \$300 or three months. His private car licence was, on the application of Inspector Mackay, ordered to be cancelled.

Chiang Kai-Shek Still In Chikow

Chikow (by phone to Shanghai), March 14. Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek is still in Chikow and has no plans whatever to leave soon.

A member of Generalissimo's official family told the United Press that a report carried by another news agency that the Generalissimo has left here and gone to Kulung Island in Amoy Bay was entirely erroneous.

He said: "The Generalissimo is still right here in Chikow."

A report from Nanking said the information that the Generalissimo has left here was a private circulation among leading Nanking Government officials. Captain K.C. Shie, one of the Generalissimo's personal aides, said the Gen-

Legalising Charity Lotteries

St. Vincent de Paul Society—one of the biggest charitable organisations in the Colony—will be able to run its annual lottery this year provided a Bill, to be presented to the Legislative Council tomorrow, passes its Third Reading.

An Ordinance to amend the Gambling Ordinance of 1891 will have its First Reading at the Council meeting tomorrow. It assimilates the law in Hong Kong to that of the United Kingdom, making it legal for lotteries, to be run as an incident of entertainment organised by charitable institutions to raise funds.

Under existing provisions of the principal Ordinance such lotteries are illegal. They were, however, legal in the United Kingdom provided that certain conditions are complied with. The conditions are included in the proposed amendment. The St. Vincent de Paul Society was not allowed to be run last year by the authorities.

Solent For Hong Kong Delegation

The specially-chartered Short Solent flying-boat which is to fly Hong Kong's industrial delegation to the British Industries Fair at London and Birmingham in May is due to arrive in the Colony in the middle of next month.

On her flight to the United Kingdom, the Solent will touch Hong Kong, Calcutta, Karachi, Bahrain, Alexandria and Augusta. The Solent has a wing-span of 114 feet. Her length is 98 feet and all-up weight totals 78,000 pounds. Her power units consist of four Bristol Hercules Type 337, 14-cylinder engines, giving a total of 1,200 horse-power.

The Solent has a cruising speed of 210-miles-an-hour, and accommodation for 31 passengers and between eight and 10 crew. Passengers are accommodated on two decks in five cabins. All seats in the Solent are adjustable and are equipped with collapsible tables. The upper deck has a lounge.

There is also a lounge and a bar on the lower deck. The flying-boat has three toilets and two dressing rooms.

BOAC TRAFFIC INCREASING

British Overseas Airways Corporation flew a total of 18,333,320 miles of cargo and mail in 1948—an increase of 40 per cent and 88 per cent, respectively, compared with the previous year's figures.

It was officially announced yesterday that in tons, the cargo carried by BOAC totalled 3,168 and mail amounted to 1,767 by air between Europe and America, Africa, Asia and Australia.

In addition, many millions of ton-miles were flown by British European Airways, British South American Airways and the British charter companies.

A considerable amount of the huge volume of traffic went in the first instance to BOAC's cargo handling unit at Airways Terminal, Buckingham Palace Road, London, where some 1,000 employees a week are received from consignors who wish to send goods by air to all parts of the world.

By the cargo booking system in operation, consignments are booked for particular services.

The revised Air Freight booklet summarises the facilities, conditions of carriage, documentation, and C.O.D. orders available free of charge from the BOAC office or its agents.

CAR ACCIDENT

An Austin utility, driven by Mr. A. T. B. Barnden of 50B, The Peak, had an accident at the junction of May Road and Garden Road last night.

SHIP HITS ROCK, TOWED INTO PORT

(By Our Harbour Reporter)

Panic among her crew and their persistent pleas compelled the master of the ss. Haven to radio for assistance a few hours after the Chinese steamer struck a rock in thick fog off Namkai Island, 10 miles South East of Waglan, at 6.05 p.m. last Sunday.

"The Haven was not in danger at any time after the accident, although she listed heavily two miles off Waglan," Mr. George Churche, aged 59, Polish master of the "Refugee Ship," stated aboard the vessel when interviewed.

The Haven, which was en route from Manila to call for bunker here after discharging 600 DPs from Shanghai at Samar Island, was towed into port yesterday with a split forepeak and listing heavily on her port side. Her No. 1 hold was only dented but became water-logged as a result of the leak from the damaged forepeak.

All hands, including several Chinese Quarantine Service doctors, are safe. No one was injured.

Divers from Talkoo Dockyard examined the ship, which was lying off Talkoo listing at an angle of about 30 degrees, and reported a large stretch of the forepeak was opened up but from its bottommost point to a length of five feet there is no damage. "According to regulations I cannot call for help unless there is danger of sinking," the China Coast veteran declared. "We were quite safe after hitting the rock and it was only when we were about two miles from Waglan that the Haven listed heavily. There the personnel from the steward department became panicky and took matters into their own hands."

Caught In Fog

Repeating his experience, Mr. Churche said:—

"The Haven was travelling along the normal course of 02 degrees North-West with instructions to pick up 1,000 tons of coal at Hong Kong before going up to Shanghai for another of her refugee missions. "On approaching the Colony we were soon enveloped by a shroud of fog. After a few hours it became worse and I made a 180-degree turn reversing to sea to wait for it to clear. "Forty minutes later, I returned again and took the 30-degree North-West course towards Waglan."

"The currents were very strong then and it became gradually foggy. Visibility was nil. Suddenly I noticed a black form ahead and ordered full speed astern immediately. This evidently saved the ship from serious damage."

"We were reversing when we hit the rock. But within 10 seconds the Haven was refloated and we anchored about three miles off the spot."

"No apparent damage was noticeable then. When I started we made for Waglan under our own steam, travelling slowly to make sure."

Gradual List

"Two miles off Waglan, we anchored again in thick fog. The Haven began to list gradually deeper to her port side. There the trouble started."

"The crew became panicky and began signalling for help by means of the ship's alarm. Persistent requests from them forced me to instruct the operator to flash the SOS."

"The lifeboats were lowered for emergency only. Most of the crew had donned their life-jackets. They belonged to the steward department, who caused me the same trouble during the voyage to the Philippines."

"About 30 packed into a lifeboat and deserted the ship. But under advice they stayed nearby because of the fog. Shortly after another 20 put off in another boat."

"Then a Norwegian steamer, apparently entering port, a Marine Police launch and the ss. Talkoo Cheong arrived. The men in the two lifeboats boarded the steamer, followed by a third boat, which was filled with another 20 deserters."

"Landlubbers"

"As a precaution I agreed to be towed into port although our engines were in good condition. "By the time we reached the harbour the Haven had listed heavily. More men deserted the ship this morning," Mr. Churche said.

Recalling an experience when the same "deserters" became panicky for no apparent reason, Churche said when he was steering the Haven through a narrow channel, to Samar Island he had to make a sudden angle turn to get through. "There was no danger at all and the ship was not even listing. But the same steamer, put with their life-jackets and asked by to put off."

"The passengers were calm. "These people are not seamen at all; most of them are landlubbers who apparently go to sea to earn more, perhaps he remarked."

Meanwhile, with their belongings huddled together on the rocky beach about 150 men waited for the Haven to be refloated.

15 seamen waited for relief from the Chinese Seamen Union. "Mostly from the Steward department, they declared that they would not return to the ship."

Doctor's Story

It could not be confirmed officially last night whether the CSU would consider providing relief under the circumstances.

Two doctors, who travelled with the refugees to the Philippines, disembarked here. Dr. T. Chao of the Shanghai Quarantine Service and Dr. Choo of the Tientsin Quarantine Service were among several Chinese doctors aboard the Haven. Dr. Chao was ship surgeon of the ss. Hwilen, which is also operating as a refugee ship. He joined the Haven for the return trip to Shanghai. Dr. Chao said they had just finished supper at about 6 p.m. when he was shaken off his feet by a sudden jolt. He rushed out and was informed of the accident. "It was exceptionally foggy and we could hardly see more than a few feet," he said.

Mr. Churche, complimented his officers, engineers and the majority of the deckhands who remained aboard throughout the ordeal. "They behaved like real seamen and went about their duties calmly," he said.

IRO Statement

In a Press release, Mr. Wm. N. Collison, Director of the IRO Hong Kong Branch Office, reported last night that the IRO evacuation programme in Shanghai will not be impeded by the Haven accident since there are several other IRO chartered vessels at present in the Far East. The Haven, he said, was due here yesterday for coal and water and also to load 500 bags of IRO flour for the refugee camp on Samar. She was proceeding to Shanghai for another load of DPs to the Philippines.

The Haven, formerly the ss. Montoro, made her first appearance in local waters late last year with personnel and their dependents, of the Wah Sung Shipping Company of Shanghai, owners of the 1,400-ton steamer. She was re-named by the IRO after the Haven when she was chartered specially for the refugee mission.

HOLD-UP AT LAICHIKOK

An Indian watchman employed by the Standard Oil Company was attacked and robbed by two Chinese early yesterday at the Laichikok installation.

The watchman, A. Singh, aged 45, was walking along the sea wall when the two men approached him, one armed with a piece of iron pipe. One of the men hit him on the head with the pipe.

A fellow watchman found his friend lying unconscious on some steps near the sea wall. Singh was taken to hospital where he has recovered.

Singh was robbed of a gold ring and valuables amounting to approximately \$140.

AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCES

Wearing of uniforms closely resembling official uniforms will become an offence under proposed amendments to the Summary Offences Ordinance, 1932, which will have their First Reading at tomorrow's Legislative Council meeting.

The amendments will also make it an offence to take photographs, make portraits or sketches in court of any person, judge, of the court, juror or a witness in or a party to any proceedings before the court. Such photographic portraits or sketches will also become illegal by the amendments. Photographs of the persons concerned, entering or leaving the courtroom or the court's precincts will also be prohibited.

The amendments are designed to prevent undesirable publicity in the way of photographs of those administering the law or appearing in court, said an official statement. Opportunity has also been taken to centralise control in the Commissioner of Police in matters concerning the maintenance of order in public places.

NAMES CHANGED

The name of the Imports and Exports Department will be changed to Department of Commerce and Industry next month. The Supplies, Trade, and Industry Department's name is also to be changed to Department of Supplies and Industries.

Kowloon Court Brevities

Bail of \$10,000 was asked at Kowloon by Detective-Sub-Inspector Sumner who prosecuted Yu Yau-mel on a charge of possession of arms.

Mr. Y.K. Kan, of Lo and Lo, representing defendant, asked for a reduction in the amount claiming that his client was a Chinese Government official and that he was in possession of the gun for security measures only.

Defendant was found with an American sub-machine gun with some 100 rounds of ammunition. Bail of \$5,000 cash and \$5,000 surety was granted by Mr. Blair-Kerr who remanded the case till Friday.

Let down by his partner in crime, Wong Muk-kong lost his share of the loot and gained for himself three months' hard labour, and deportation for life.

Wong stole a bicycle from a shop, delivered it to sell it. He stole and sold him to sell it. He returned to the shop and did the same thing over again.

After stealing the two bicycles, he told his accomplice to sell them and meet him at the ferry to split the money. His friend never showed up.

Inspector J.H. Evans was in charge of the case.

Chased by an old woman with a stick, a 15-year-old boy threw a sickle at her, causing injury to her left temple.

Inspector Orem said that the boy and the woman's son were playfully throwing pebbles at each other at Lantau.

Some pebbles fell into a basket of tomatoes belonging to the woman. The boy was sharpening his sickle at the time.

Inspector Orem said that the boy and the woman's son were playfully throwing pebbles at each other at Lantau.

Two fishermen argued over a debt of 50 cents which must have meant a lot to one of them, for the other received an axe wound on the head because of it.

Mr. Blair-Kerr granted Inspector Orem's application for three days' remand as the wounded fisherman is still in hospital.

Gold valued at about \$45,000 was ordered to be confiscated to the I and E by Mr. Blair-Kerr from two men who attempted to export 10 bars.

Revenue Inspector Knox, prosecuting, said that from information, a certain party had been carefully watched. The men had the gold concealed in their socks.

"You are a bad boy and need a good thrashing," said Mr. Blair-Kerr to a juvenile yesterday. He was charged with using a blade's chop that did not belong to him, causing much trouble to the officers of the Government Vegetable Market.

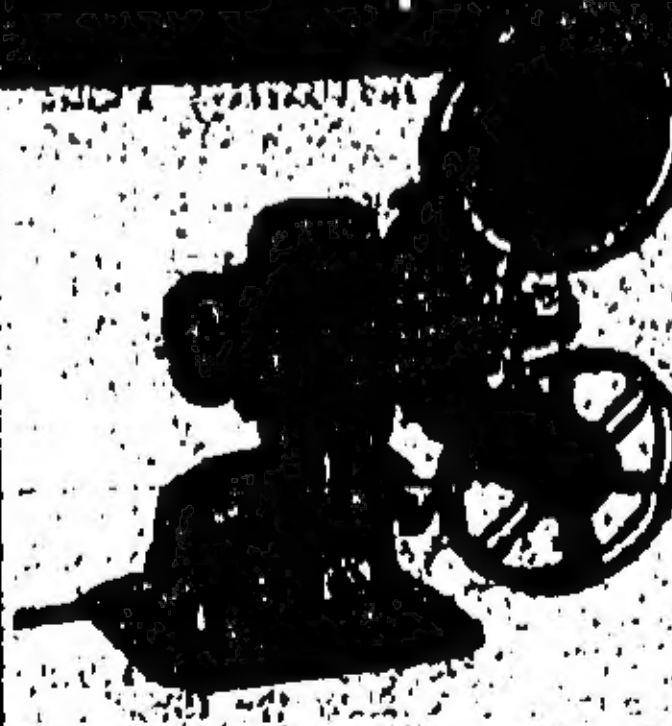
After Mr. C. Large had told the court the amount of work involved in a deceit of this nature, Mr. Blair-Kerr ordered the boy to receive 12 strokes of the cane.

FAILED TO PUT IN APPEARANCE

Mok Chi-chui, charged with indecent assault on Liu Sam-mui, on March 4, in a train car, failed to come before Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central yesterday for a formal remand.

His bail of \$200 was returned and a warrant was issued for his arrest.

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DPW GIVES EVIDENCE ON BEHALF OF MAY

Evidence that May's reputation was one of high standing, enterprise and initiative, was given yesterday by the Director of Public Works, Mr. V. Kenniff, and the Acting Senior Health Officer, Dr. G. Graham-Cumming, who appeared to testify voluntarily as to the character of the accused.

Mention of May's part in espionage and sabotage activities during the Japanese occupation was also made. Crown Counsel will give his closing address for the Crown to the jury this morning.

Standing trial on three counts of larceny by public servant and other counts of falsification of documents with intent to defraud the Government at Kwok Kwong, foreman, and Arthur Frederick May, electrical inspector Grade I, both of the Public Works Department.

Cross-examined by Crown Counsel, Mr. A. Hooton, May declared that he visited sites in a purely technical capacity. The number of men on a job would be guessed roughly from the Distribution Board before he left the office. There was no necessity for coming each man on the job personally.

Mr. Hooton questioned May about the job at the Kwong Wan market. Accused agreed that there were 30 men working at Kwong Wan up to August 11 last year. He also agreed that he put his signature on the daily labour distribution and job report with regard to this particular job.

The job was visited by him twice, May added, the first occasion on July 26 with Kwok Kwong and the other on August 4.

Mr. Hooton referred to May's statement as made to Mr. Macpherson at Hung Hom, and pointed out the sentence: "I did see men working there." Questioned, accused denied having said that. What he had said, May claimed, was: "I might have seen men working there."

Not Well Kept

Mr. Macpherson, accused claimed, asked him "Did you visit Kwong Wan?" and before he could reply to the question, Mr. Macpherson was switching away as if he knew the answer.

May told the court that about the end of July to some time in August last year, the distribution board was not being well kept. The action he took against the clerk responsible, Lee Pashan, was to report the matter to Brown.

Turning to the Lai Chi Kok Hospital work, Crown Counsel inquired whether accused agreed that the drawing up of the 1,400 yards of electrical wire for that job was authorised by him, to which May agreed. He did not check whether the particular wire drawn from Wanchai was going to Lai Chi Kok or not.

Accused stated that it was wrong for the foreman to draw stores from Wanchai in large quantities at a time. He had authorised the drawing of large quantities only in cases of urgent work.

Crown Counsel put it to May with regard to the work at Pokfulam that May knew everything about it all the time. Accused denied this.

Mr. Hooton: Kwok Kwong gave evidence strongly implicating you in the case. May: Yes.

What were your relations with Kwok Kwong after August 11? — I always found him a ready and willing person.

Helped By May

Counsel stated that Kwok Kwong never gave any statement that he was implicated in the Kwong Kwong Green Club or CPA electrical job. To which May replied that according to what he had read in the papers regarding the previous PWD case, mention of his name had been made by Kwok in connection with these jobs.

Asked why Kwok Kwong should tell truths about the Pokfulam job implicating him, accused declared that he did not know.

Lam Yam, proprietor of the Cheong Hing electrical firm, who had given evidence for the prosecution in the Lower Court, said in evidence that his firm had never been employed in any electrical work connected with CPA, KBGC, the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club, or the Cecilia Beauty Salon.

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Personalia

Mr. and Mrs. E. Woodward, Mr. and Mrs. H. Colman, Mrs. J. H. Blackie, Miss D. M. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wright, Mr. E. A. Aust and Sir R. C. Marshall arrived from Shanghai by the ss. Hupeh yesterday.

Week-end departures from the Peninsula Hotel included Mrs. J. C. Voss, Mrs. R. Gullestad, Major and Mrs. M. Brennan, Mrs. G. Wilkinson, Mrs. P. Frost, Mrs. J. M. Fairchild, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Bosch, Mr. and Mrs. A. Mohr, Messrs. A. H. Lang, F. J. Wauch, E. M. Moon, P. Williams, T. Jenkins, I. N. McLeod, I. Gottman, W. S. Stocks, H. H. Evans, K. Lockhart, A. Fernandez, F. E. Jenkins, W. B. Lacy, A. H. Brown, W. J. Holmes, G. L. Howatt, W. G. Rhumer, G. H. Heintzen, A. L. Roberts, C. B. Theier, R. T. W. Mull and F. B. Ochler.

New week-end arrivals at the Peninsula Hotel were Mrs. W. Crestello, Mr. and Mrs. J. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Bernard, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. P. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Dekker, Messrs. A. Price, O. L. Dawson, J. P. Grant, V. J. Sykes, M. F. Meyers, T. O'Donovan, R. H. Lloyd, I. N. Malleed, H. B. McDowell, J. L. Alway, D. H. Williams, L. J. Simmonds, J. Sakin, M. Malendres and D. D. Bennett.

Mr. "Mike" Kendall of Philippine Air Lines returned yesterday from Calcutta, where he opened a new office for P.A.L.

Mr. Jerry O'Donnell of Pan American Airways returned yesterday from a three-week combination business and pleasure visit to Europe.

His travels took him to Paris, London, Brussels and other cities on the Continent.

Mr. Walter Hunziker, formerly of the Aluminium Rolling Mills of Shanghai, passed through the Colony yesterday, en route home to Lausanne, Switzerland.

Mr. Hunziker, who has spent nine years in China, does not plan to return. He said he would take a holiday before deciding what to do next.

Mrs. Florence I. Allen, Mrs. Yorke H. Sharpe, Lieutenant Denis A. Bayly, Lieutenant John F. Coyne and Mr. William R. Williams arrived in the Colony yesterday by the ss. Clytneus from Singapore.

The following forthcoming wedding have been announced: Clifford Peter Hayes, leading writer, HMS Tamar, and Delia Ernestina dos Remedios, stenotypist, 27, Caroline Hill Road.

Kenneth Evans, civil servant, Flat 14, Sunning Court Apartments, 101 Ping Road, and Patricia Muriel Wheeler, stenotypist, 228 Nathan Road, 2nd floor.

He had also a high regard for May's honesty.

Citing one example of this, witness related how in May 1948, May came to him in his office and told him that he had received from someone a Rolex watch and a Parker 51 pen and pencil. Witness said he pointed out to May how easy it was for him to have kept the watch, pen and pencil for himself. May considered it his duty to hand it in.

Eventually the items were returned to their donor.

No Records

Cross-examining, Crown Counsel asked witness whether he would agree that there was a place at Hung Hom where materials in transit were kept. Agreeing with this, witness said that it was not subject to the Government stores regulations, and he did not think it necessary to have a record kept of materials in transit.

Mr. Hooton suggested to witness that there would be no harm for records to be kept of such materials that came into Hung Hom for a lot of jobs, to which witness replied that that would be expensive. Beside that it was entirely up to the foreman to do it if he saw fit.

At this stage, the trial was adjourned until this morning, when Dr. G. H. Thomas will be recalled for further clarification of evidence, after which Crown Counsel will give his closing address to the jury.

Fruitless Search For Missing Crane

Canton, March 14. Five thousand air miles have been flown in what has so far proved a fruitless search for a floating crane which has been adrift in Formosa Strait since February 28.

The crane, worth £25,000, was being towed from Shanghai to Canton when it broke adrift in a storm.

Several reports from ships have been investigated without result. Searchers now believe that the crane may be in the lower part of the strait, and daily flights are being maintained by CATC planes with 10 observers aboard.

Tramways Fraud Case

The prosecution witnesses in the Tramways Case were subjected to cross-examination by Messrs. M. A. da Silva and P. C. Woo at Central yesterday.

Mr. John McNeill, instructed by Mr. P. A. L. Vine, together with Mr. A. J. Clifford, conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Tramways Company.

Mr. Clifford was not present in court as he is engaged in the May trial at the sessions.

Mr. Silva is representing 11 of the defendants and Mr. P. C. Woo, two.

The case concerns 14 Tramways Inspectors and a conductor. They are charged on two counts of conspiracy to defraud the Tramways Company by permitting the resale of the old tickets.

Mr. Silva, a village guard and farmer of Chiu Kang Village, in the witness box, told of how eight men had come to his home, asked him for money and left a letter addressed to his uncle.

Chung and another witness said in evidence that they identified defendant at an identification parade.

Mr. MacKenzie told the court that on March 8, Tang Yip, defendant, came to his office and was interviewed with regard to the case involving Lok Lam-chai.

Defendant was cautioned, said Mr. MacKenzie, before a statement was taken from him.

Embezzler Gets Year's Sentence

Kwan Pak-kul, alias Kwan Tse-jeung, aged 19, a clerk formerly employed by the Yiu Wo Cheong Import and Export Firm, was sentenced to one year's hard labour and recommended for banishment by Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central yesterday.

The defendant had pleaded guilty in a previous hearing to a charge of embezzling US\$6,970 belonging to the firm, and the sentence was ordered to start from January 25, the date of the plea.

It was admitted by the defendant that some of the money was converted to HK\$35,000 and that he had used \$10,000 in buying the Cumberland cafe, originally owned by Chiu Tong.

Mr. Y. H. Chan, prosecuting, said that he had intended to make a request for an order of restitution, but just before he came into the court, he received certain information which would be against his application. His request for one week's adjournment to enable him to follow up the information was granted.

Mr. H. L. Kwan, representing Chiu Tong opposed the application but had no objection to the adjournment.

She is due here on April 21.

She is the 8,200-ton ms. Sunnyville, sister ship of the Castleville, Bougainville, and Francisville, which have all been constructed specially for the post-war service of the "K" Line from the Pacific Coast to usual ports in the Philippines, Hong Kong, Malaya and Java.

Equipped with all latest navigation aids, the Sunnyville can accommodate 124 passengers in luxurious cabins.

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ALLEGED GANG MEMBER TO STAND TRIAL

Between December 18 and 20 last year, eight armed men went to the home of a farmer in the New Territories, spoke to his nephew, then left a letter addressed to his uncle in which they demanded a sum of \$1,000.

The letter was given into the custody of the police and upon their operational plan, one of the men was killed in a gun fight during a police ambush.

Later upon police investigations, Wong Yu-cheung, aged 27, was arrested. He was alleged to be a member of the gang headed by Lok Lam-chai, for whom the police are still looking.

Wong appeared before Mr. A. D. Scholes at Kowloon last month and was committed to stand trial at the Supreme Court.

Yesterday, after further investigation, another man, said to be one of Lok's gang, was brought to the dock before Mr. Blair-Kerr. He was Tang Yip, alias Tang Kan-yip.

After an afternoon's proceedings, Tang was also committed to stand trial on a charge of demanding money with menaces and being in possession of arms.

Detective Sub-Inspector R. MacKenzie, who was in charge of Wong's hearings, prosecuted Tang Yip yesterday.

Guard's Story. Cheung Tung-kwei, a village guard and farmer of Chiu Kang Village, in the witness box, told of how eight men had come to his home, asked him for money and left a letter addressed to his uncle.

Chung and another witness said in evidence that they identified defendant at an identification parade.

Mr. MacKenzie told the court that on March 8, Tang Yip, defendant, came to his office and was interviewed with regard to the case involving Lok Lam-chai.

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REINFORCEMENT OF AKABA COMMENCES

SOVIET ZONE IS PARALYSED

Berlin, March 13.

The Soviet Zone economy is being paralysed by a wave of unemployment, the British-licensed Berlin paper, "Sozial Demokrat," declared today.

"Crowds of unemployed workers are piling up in the labour office of the city," the paper said. "Since the climax of unemployment in Germany in 1932, there has been no such thing."

The paper blames Soviet policy in Eastern Germany, aimed at Communist control over Berlin, as the main reason for the negative development of the Soviet Zone economy.

"This unscrupulous policy gravely links trade connections between the Soviet Zone and Western Germany, thus undermining even the small foundations on which the economic two-year plan could be based," the paper said.

"The lack of raw materials was the consequence. There is a shortage of almost everything: iron and steel, sheet-metal and wire, nails and screws, rubber belts and all kinds of chemicals. Although statistical tricks try to conceal it, production is steadily decreasing,"—Reuter.

SOVIET CO-OPS

Moscow, March 13.

The Soviet Union's co-operative societies, with 32 million members, have announced their support for a proposed "World Congress of Peace" in April, the official Soviet news agency, Tass, reported today.

Their Central Council said in a statement: "Members of the Soviet co-operatives have come out in a united front for a stable peace against the instigators of a new war. Peace throughout the world will be assured,"—Reuter.

STAR

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TODAY ONLY

(By Popular Request)

At 2.30, 5.10, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

1.00 p.m.—Albert Sandler Trio.

1.15 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.

1.25 p.m.—Interlude.

1.30 p.m.—London Philharmonic Orchestra.

2.00 p.m.—Close Down.

6.00 p.m.—Programme Summary.

6.01 p.m.—Ted Heath and His Orchestra with Paul Carpenter, (Vocal) (HUTCH).

6.30 p.m.—Cantata by Radio Given by Miss Lee Wei Lan and S. K. Lee, (Studio).

6.50 p.m.—Jenny Carter and His Orchestra.

7.00 p.m.—World News and News Analysis, (London Relay).

7.15 p.m.—"See Tee" Talks on Sport, (Studio).

7.25 p.m.—Interlude.

7.30 p.m.—"Down Memory Lane" Presented by Aileen Woods, (Studio).

8.00 p.m.—From the Editorials, (London Relay).

8.10 p.m.—"Nothing but Music"..... Sidney Torch and Queens Hall Light Orchestra, (ORHS).

8.40 p.m.—Selections from Opera, (Studio).

9.00 p.m.—"20 Questions" Residents: Aileen Dekker, Douglas Galloway, John Colley, Guest: Allister Blair-Kerr, Question Master: Peter Gregory, (Studio).

9.30 p.m.—"The Goodwin Sands" A Feature Programme, (HUTCH).

10.00 p.m.—Radio News Reel, (London Relay).

10.15 p.m.—Weather Report, (Studio).

10.45 p.m.—Chamber Music Recital, Sonata No. 3 in D Minor, Op. 108 (Brahms)..... Joseph Schlegel, (Violin and Piano Trio) (Piano).

11.00 p.m.—Music for Dancing, (Studio).

11.15 p.m.—Weather Report and Close Down.

TOMORROW

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John Sheppard

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EDGAR ALLAN POE"

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11.00 p.m.—Music for Dancing, (Studio).

11.15 p.m.—Weather Report and Close Down.

TOMORROW

Linda Darnell

John Sheppard

In

"THE LOVES OF

EDGAR ALLAN POE"

17 Hankow Road, Kowloon

TODAY ONLY

(By Popular Request)

At 2.30, 5.10, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

1.00 p.m.—Albert Sandler Trio.

1.15 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.

1.25 p.m.—Interlude.

1.30 p.m.—London Philharmonic Orchestra.

2.00 p.m.—Close Down.

6.00 p.m.—Programme Summary.

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WINSTON CHURCHILL'S WAR MEMOIRS: THE SECOND BOOK

THEIR FINEST HOUR

Destroyers For Naval Bases

By Winston Churchill

Mr. Churchill, in his first telegram as Prime Minister to President Roosevelt on May 15, 1940, had asked for the loan of 40 or 50 old U.S. destroyers. This request had been repeated in the following months and was eventually fulfilled after Britain had given the United States the 99-year lease of certain naval bases.

Believing, as I have always done, that the survival of Britain bound up with the survival of the United States, it seemed to me and to my colleagues that it was an actual advantage to have these bases in American hands. I therefore did not look upon the question from any narrow British point of view.

There was another reason, wider and more powerful than either our need for the destroyers or the American need for the bases. The transfer to Great Britain of 50 American warships was a decidedly unilateral act by the United States. It would, according to all standards of history, have justified the German Government in declaring war upon them. The President judged that there was no danger, and I felt there was no danger, of this simple solution of many difficulties. It was Hitler's interest and method to strike his opponents down one by one. The last thing he wished to be drawn into war with the United States before he had finished with Britain.

Was Anxious

Nevertheless, the transfer of the 50 destroyers to Britain in August, 1940, was an event which brought to us and to the war, and it was the first of a long succession of increasingly unilateral acts in the Atlantic which were of the utmost service to us. It marked the pass-

discussion, perhaps on the eve of an invasion, would be injurious to public morale, now so high. Moreover, we must never get into a position where the United States Government might say: "We think the time has come for you to send your Fleet across the Atlantic in accordance with our understanding or agreement when we gave you the destroyers." We must refuse any suggestion such as is suggested and confine the deal solely to the Colonial leases.

To the President I telegraphed: "I need not tell you how cheered I am by your message or how grateful I feel for your untiring efforts to give us all possible help. You will, I am sure, send us everything you can, for you know well that the worth of every destroyer that you can spare to us is measured in rubles. But we also need, the motor torpedo-boats which you mentioned, and as many flying-boats and rifles as you can let us have. We have a million men waiting for rifles."

The moral value of this fresh aid from your Government and people at this critical time will be very great and widely felt. We can meet both the points you consider necessary to help you with Congress and with others concerned, but I am sure that you will not misunderstand me

at once proceeding to seek their consent. Once again, Mr. President, let me thank you for your help and encouragement, which means so much to us.

Deep Feelings

The President, having always to consider Congress and also the Navy authorities in the United States, was of course increasingly drawn to present the transaction to his fellow-countrymen as a highly advantageous bargain whereby immense securities were gained in

the dangerous times by the United States in return for a few flotillas of obsolete destroyers. This was indeed true, but not exactly a convenient statement for me. Deep feelings were aroused in Parliament and the Government at the idea of leasing any part of these historic territories, and if the issue were presented to the British as a naked trading-away of British possessions for the sake of the 50 destroyers, it would certainly encounter vehement opposition. I sought therefore (in a speech in the House on August 20) to place the transaction on the highest level, where indeed it had a right to stand, because it expressed and conserved the enduring common interests of the English-speaking world. Mr. Sumner Welles had told him that the constitutional position made it "utterly impossible" for the President to send the destroyers as a spontaneous gift; they could come only as a quid pro quo. Under the



The Japanese have got several tons of whale from the Antarctic. One man's poison is another man's meat.

When Madam Chiang fell in her mission it was shek-mate. "What is more enjoyable than a long walk on a Sunday morning finishing up with a cool glass of beer?" asks a writer. Sounds like subtle propaganda for the Defence Force.

Inspection on lid of fruit jar: "Pierce with a pin to release vacuum. Then push off."—flurriedly!

I shall love you as long as a lover must. At least I will nobly try. Till all the rock has turned to dust.

And all the seas are dry. Till the last long sob has died away. In the last lone crooner's throat. Till the last star fades from the midnight sky. Till Hong Kong gets a vote...

Unfortunately the best bench seats cannot be balloted for.

A man tells us that it is far better to have the boss of the house find a letter in your pocket that you forgot to post than one you neglected to destroy.

Notice in an ultra-modern restaurant: "Please be careful with the automatic waitresses in this establishment. One wrong word from the customers and they blow up."

"Good home wanted for twin grey male kittens. Five months. One a person." What's the other — a Medo?

Marshall aid keeps America exporting and British shipping employed. Maybe we can make a living too, paying ourselves for carrying gifts to charitable institutions. Or is there a long term fallacy in it?

A naturalist declares that some people who call themselves bird-lovers cannot tell the difference between partridges and corn-crakes. Perhaps they have never tasted corn-crakes.

The little kangaroo kept hopping out of its mama's pouch. Every time the papa kangaroo put it back, out the baby would pop again. Papa became quite annoyed, and on the 10th jump-out he spanked him gingerly. "Don't do that," interceded Mama Kangaroo. "He can't help it if I have hiccups."



Self-mesmerism ...

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BIRTH

HUNG—On March 6, to Cecilia Ng Sin Wa, wife of Sebastiao Hung, a son. Both mother and child doing well. (Macao papers please copy).

U.K. RECOVERY

Both newspaper reports and letters from Home are currently describing an apparent lessening of austerity: gradual abolition of rationing, more goods in the shops, some reductions in price—some even above-the-counter piles of cigarettes. This coincides with frequently garbled accounts that Britain has balanced her overseas trade, and that the country will soon be able to stand on its own feet.

It is indeed good news for those of us in opulent Hong Kong to know that friends at Home are enjoying a lessening in the iron-hard round of scarcity and restriction they have been tied to for 10 years. Not that very much has changed: it is more an augury of things that may come. Visitors to Belgium, France, Italy etc. since the war have often said that while the British system of stringent controls cannot but be admired, a little more of the freedom of Paris or Rome would have provided much-needed incentive. Next month sweets come off the ration, and for the first time in their lives most children will be able to buy all the bull's eyes and lollipops their hearts desire. Clothes rationing is coming to an end. Shops are full of most consumer goods. It looks fine at a casual glance, but just how sure is the foundation of optimism is another matter.

Some of the hard facts are disturbing. Overseas trade is balanced—up to a point. In the sterling area it is in our favour, but with the American continent Britain will for years to come have an adverse balance of hundreds of millions of dollars. A sudden cessation of Marshall aid would mean complete chaos. Nor has anyone offered a single likely solution to this grim problem, apart from long-term planners who advocate expansion of raw material resources within the Empire.

The sudden appearance of cigarettes in the shops is unlikely to mean more than the desire of dealers to unload their stocks before the April budget, when Sir Stafford Cripps may reduce the tax slightly. The increase in consumer goods is said by some experts to be the ominous result of loss of foreign markets rather than a superabundance of production.

There is no doubt, too, that money is tighter. Luxury trades are suffering a setback. Barkeepers stand idle behind the beer handles. The catering industry, which has been reaping a lush harvest for years, finds itself with empty rooms and a noticeable slowness of bookings for the summer season. Even the budget is unlikely to offer any relief to harassed salary earners, apart from a penny or two off beer and cigarettes.

Socialist schemes march on, and they all need money. The newly nationalised industries monotonously proceed at a loss, and it has not occurred to the working masses what will happen when they are all taken over, and all running at a loss. So far, bitter taxation of the middle class has veiled the

truth, but eventually facts will have to be admitted, unless the standard of living in Britain is to decline to that of Russia. Britain has truly done a remarkable job since the war, but she is far from being out of the wood as yet.

My last words in my speech were of course addressed primarily to Germany and Italy, to whom the idea of a war of continents and a long war are at present obnoxious; also to the Dominions for whom we are trustees. I have nevertheless always had in mind your point and have raised it in various telegrams to President as well as to Mackenzie King.

In Awe

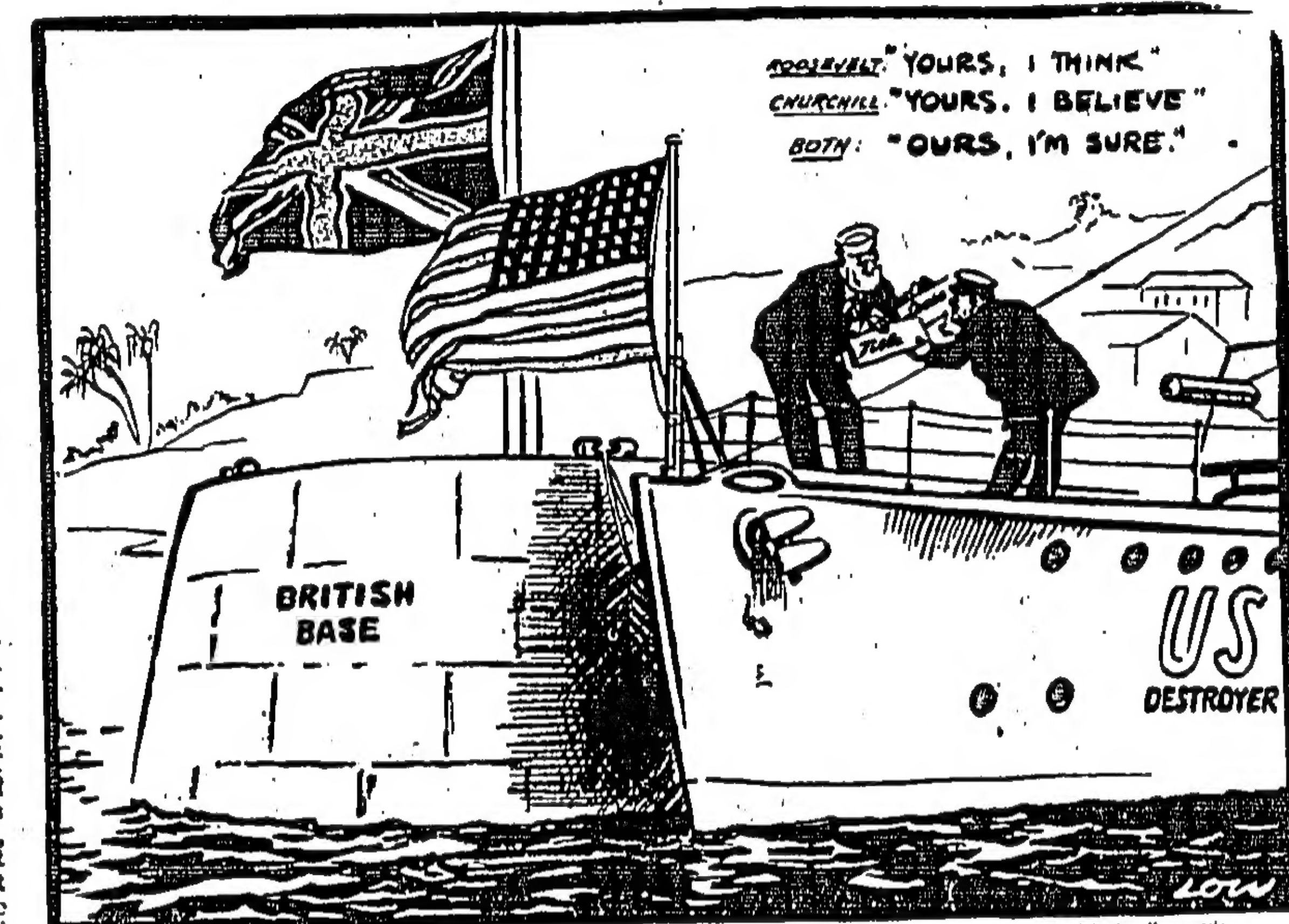
If Great Britain broke under invasion, a pro-German Government might obtain far easier terms from Germany by surrendering the Fleet, thus making Germany and Japan masters of the New World. This dastard deed would not be done by His Majesty's present advisers, but if some Quisling Government were set up, it is exactly what they would do, and perhaps the only thing they could do, and the President should bear this very clearly in mind. You should talk to him in this sense and thus discourage any complacent assumption on United States' part that they will pick up the debris of the British Empire by their present policy. On the contrary, they run the terrible risk that their sea power will be completely over-matched. Moreover, islands and naval bases to hold the United States in awe would certainly be claimed by the Nazis. If we go down, Hitler has very good chance of conquering the world.

Nearly a month passed before any result emerged. Then came an encouraging telegram from the Ambassador. He said (July 6-8) that informed American opinion was at last beginning to realise that they were in danger of losing the British Fleet altogether, if the war went against us and if they remained neutral. It would however be extremely difficult to get American public opinion to consider this unless it could be assured that in the event of the United States entering the war the British Fleet, or such of it as was left, would cross the Atlantic if Great Britain were overrun.

Traded Off

In the first week of August the suggestion was made to us through Lord Lothian that the 50 old but reconditioned American destroyers which lay in the East coast Navy yards might be traded off to us in exchange for the cession of a series of bases in the West Indian Islands, including especially Bermuda. There was, of course, no comparison between the intrinsic value of these antiquated and inefficient craft and the immense permanent strategic security afforded to the United States by the enjoyment of the island bases. But the threat of invasion, the importance of numbers in the Narrow Seas made our need clamant. Moreover, the strategic value of these islands counted only against the United States.

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age of the United States, from being neutral to being non-belligerent. Although Hitler could not afford to resent it, all the world understood the significance of the gesture.

For all these reasons the War Cabinet and Parliament approved the policy of leasing the bases to obtain the destroyers, provided we could persuade the West Indian island Governments concerned to make what was to them a serious sacrifice and disturbance of their life for the sake of the Empire. On August 6 Lothian called that the President was anxious for an immediate reply about the future of the Fleet. He wished to be assured that if Britain were overrun, the Fleet would continue to fight for the Empire overseas and would not either be surrendered or sunk. This was, it was said, the argument which would have the most effect on Congress in the question of the destroyers. The prospects of legislative action, he thought, were steadily improving.

I expressed my own feelings to the Foreign Secretary:

In Rubies

The position is, I think, quite clear. We have no intention of surrendering the British Fleet, or of sinking it voluntarily. Indeed, such a fate is more likely to overtake the German Fleet—or what is left of it. The nation would not tolerate any discussion of what we should do if our Island were overrun. Such a

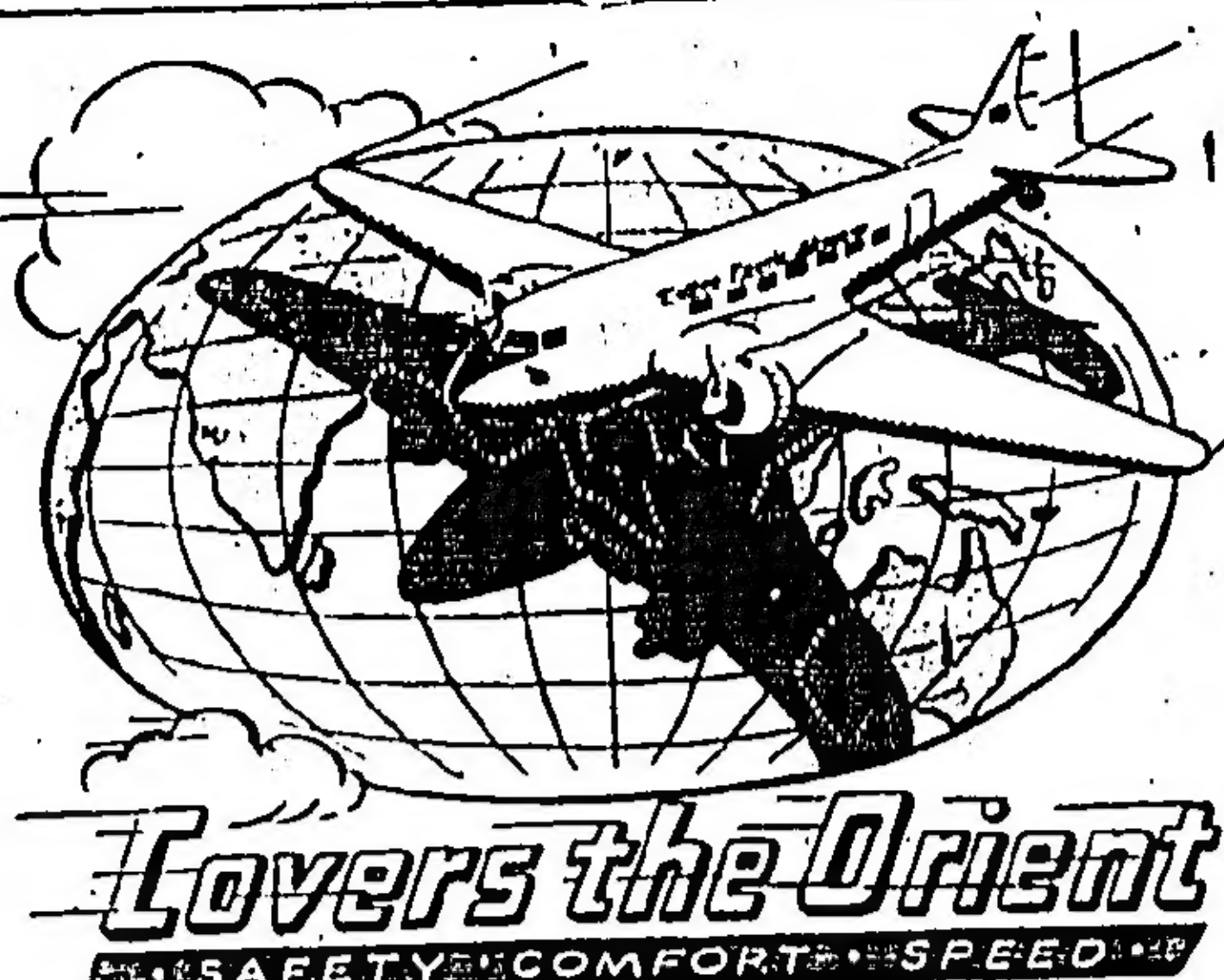
if I say that our willingness to do so must be conditional on our being assured that there will be no delay in letting us have the ships and flying-boats.

Buy Peace

As regards an assurance about the British Fleet, I am, of course, ready to reiterate to you what I told Parliament on June 4. We intend to fight this out here to the end, and none of us would ever buy peace by surrendering or scuttling the Fleet. But, in any use you may make of this repeated assurance you will please bear in mind the disastrous effect from our point of view, and perhaps also from yours, of allowing any impression to grow that we regard the conquest of the British Islands and its naval bases as any other than an impossible contingency. The spirit of our people is splendid. Never have they been so determined. Their confidence in the issue has been enormously and legitimately strengthened by the severe air fighting in the past week. As regards naval and air bases, I readily agree to your proposals for 99-year leases, which are far easier for us than the method of purchase. I have no doubt that once the principle is agreed between us the details can be adjusted and we can discuss them at leisure. It will be necessary for us to consult the Governments of Newfoundland and Canada about the Newfoundland base, in which Canada has an interest. We are

existing legislation neither the Chief of the Staff nor the General Board of the Navy were able to give the certificate that the ships were not essential to national defence, without which the transfer could not be legally made, except in return for a definite consideration which they would certify added to the security of the United States. The President had tried to find another way out, but there was none.

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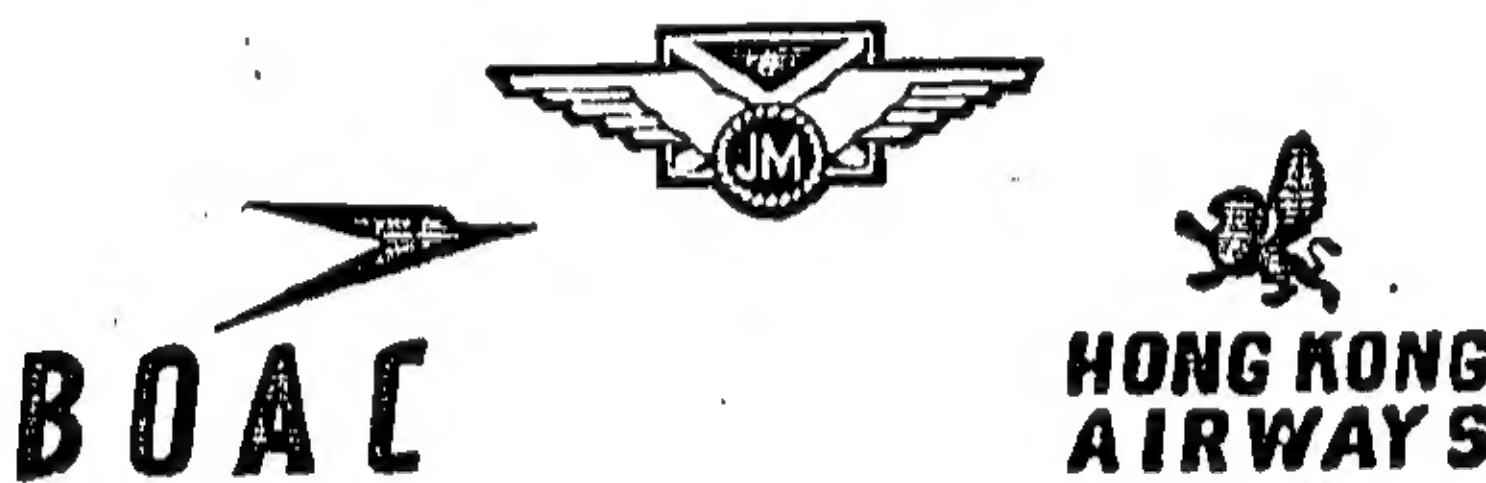
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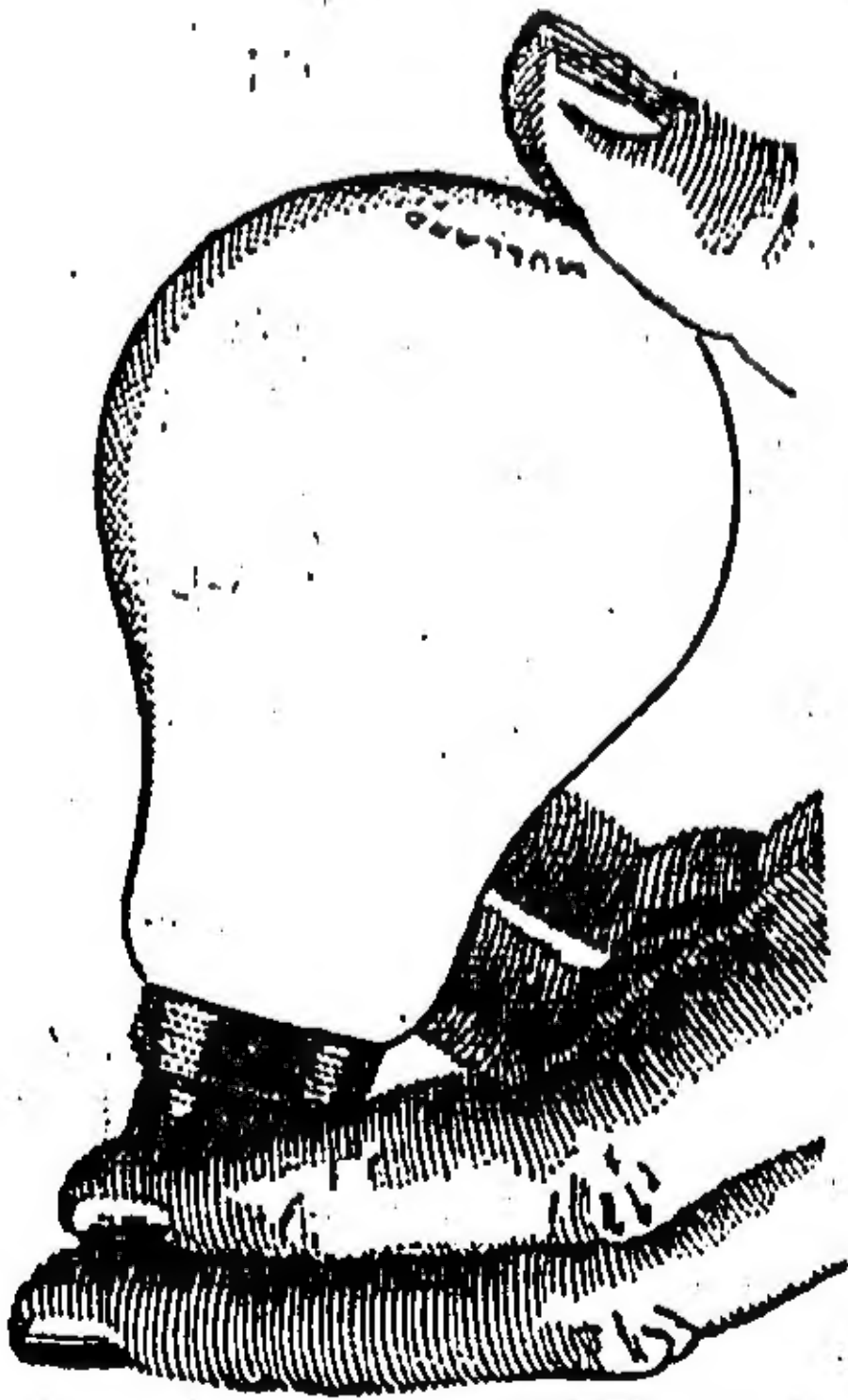
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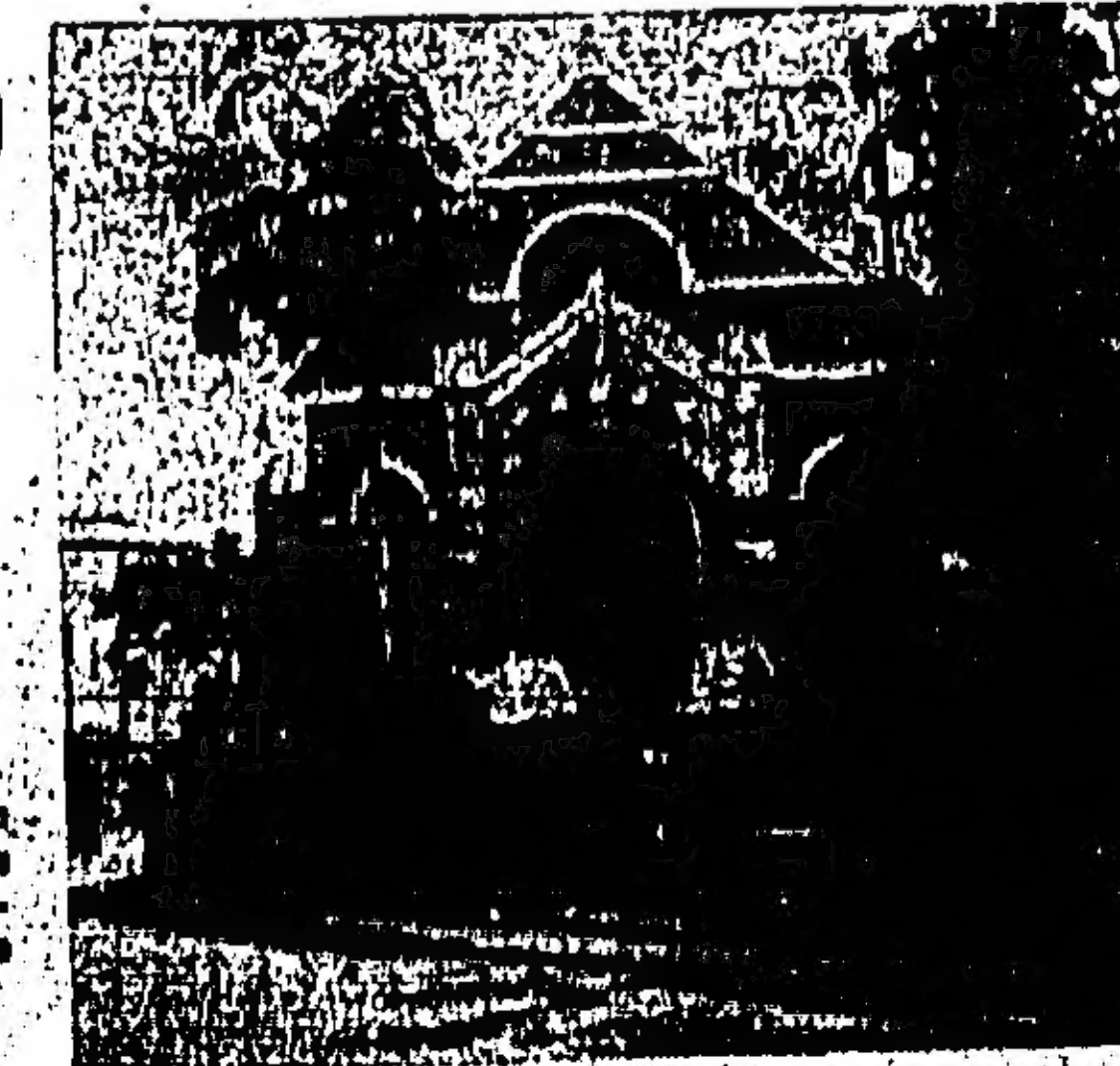
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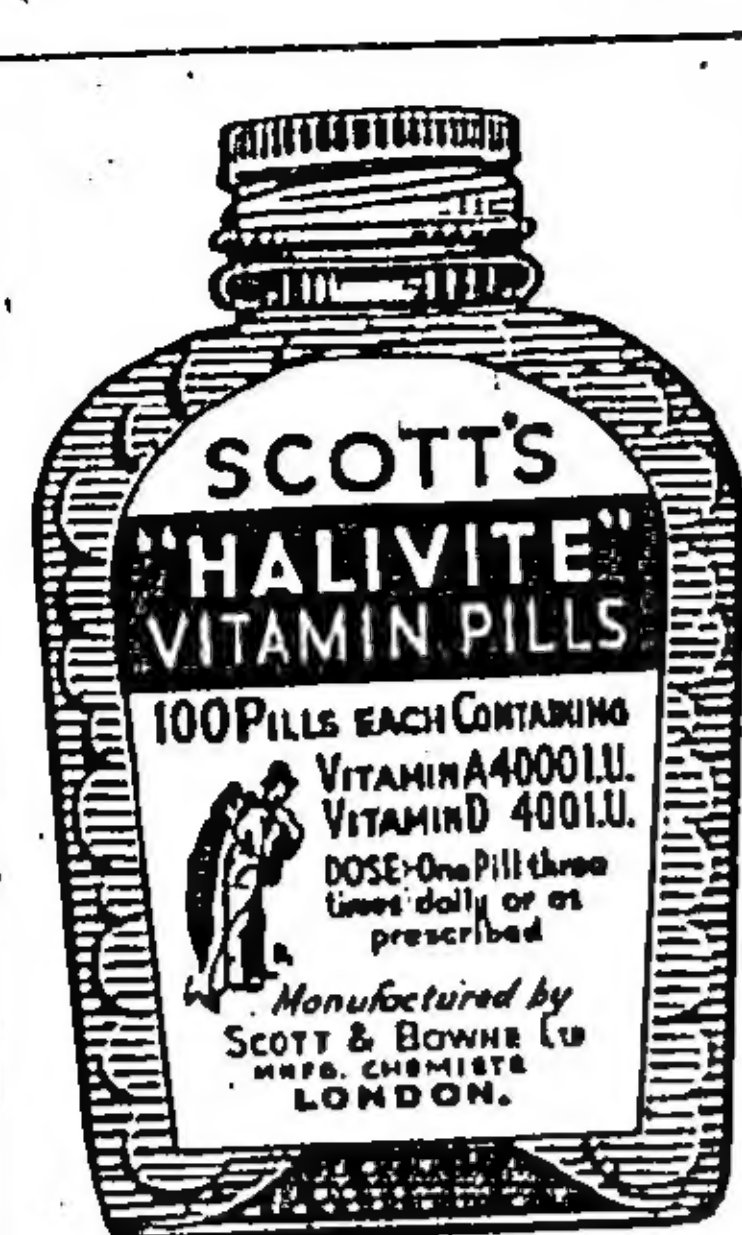


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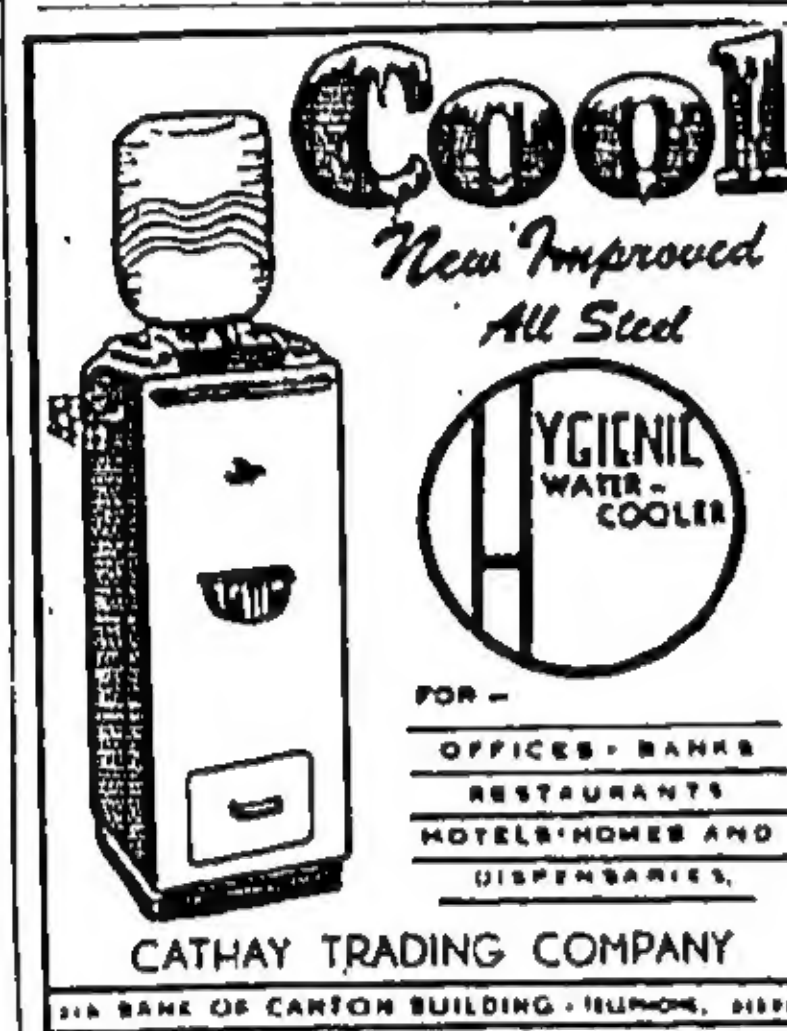
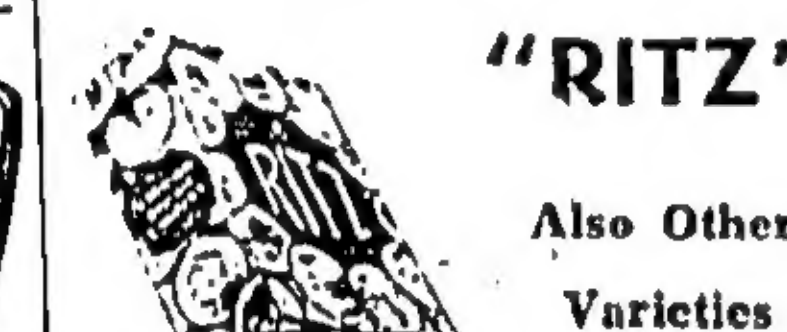
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RELY CHEMICALS
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Inspection.

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CHEAP SALEAUTOMATIC CAMERA 3.5
lense \$100.
CAMERA LIGHTERS.... \$9.
TELESCOPE 6 x 30, made
in USA \$90.

Also Expert Repairing Service.

AH MONG STORECorner of Stanley and
D'Aguiar St.**FOR ALL PROPERTY
AND LAND MATTERS**
consult
STALEY REALTY CO.,
115, Queen's Building.Russians Without Any
Defence Against B-36

Washington, March 13.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff had been handed a United
States Air Force finding that Russia has no
adequate defence against the B-36 super-
bomber.Furthermore, she may not have a defence for
several years.The finding is based on tests
under combat conditions and it
underscored the Air Secretary's
description of the B-36 as an
inter-continental bomber.The Air Force's information,
plus corollary interviews with Air
Force officers, stressed:1. The super-bomber, which
is capable of carrying an atomic
bomb, is the only bomber
craft that can perform efficiently
at an altitude of over eight miles.
That, plus its armaments, makes
it almost immune to interception
and anti-aircraft fire.2. It is the only bomber in
the world that does not have to
be altered so it can carry special
bombs. Its capacity is two 42,000
pounders.3. Russia faces two major de-
fensive problems—building inter-
ceptors that could waylay big
planes and ringing her vast ter-
ritory with a radar warning system
that would get interceptors into
the air in time.

Major Issue

4. Even the Air Force's jet
fighters, believed to be as good
as any in the world, are 600-
mph demons at 30,000 feet but
unwieldy in the thinner air at
40,000 feet. A test at Eglin Air
Force base showed how they lose
power and their small wings will
not support them in thin air.5. The B-36 soon will be
equipped with four jet engines
to augment its six 3,500-
horsepower engines. That will
increase its take off power and
give extra speed when needed.Some Air Force officers believe
the super bomber's range of 10,
000 miles not only means that
atomic bombs can be delivered
without hindrance, but that they
would not have to be stored
outside the United States in war-
time where they can be exposed
to attack.The Air Force's data has been
passed on to the White House.
The major issue before the Air
Force now is to develop an in-
terceptor to "combat" the B-36.
Air Force tests show there isan altitude barrier which ranks
in importance with the so-called
sonic speed barrier. Two things
happen to today's fighters at high
altitudes:

Jet Outmatched

1. Their power loss is so great
that they have only an 80 to
100-mile speed advantage over
the B-36.2. Their small wings will not
support them in manoeuvres in
thin air. Shallow turns require
a several-mile radius. Tight turns
cause them to "mush" or "stall"
because they lose "lift".In either case, their quarry
eludes them, as demonstrated
at the Air Force base.As a result, the Air Force has
found that if a jet attacks the
B-36 at all, it must do so from
the tail. With its immovable 50-
calibre guns and 600-yard
effective range, the jet is hope-
lessly outmatched by the re-
ceding B-36 target and its auto-
matically-aimed 20-millimetre
guns with their 800-yard range.For all this, it is assumed that
radar warning and guidance
stations have been able to get the
jets into position for an attack
in time in the first place.—
United Press.MASS SAID
FOR CARDINAL

Santiago, March 13.

A Mass for Cardinal Minds-
zenty, Primate of Hungary,
sentenced to life imprisonment,
was celebrated at midnight last
night outside the official resi-
dence of the Papal Nuncio here.Cabinet Ministers, the Diplo-
matic Corps and high army officers
attended.Under the light of reflectors a
vast throng sang hymns as a
plane, circling overhead, traced a
great cross in vapour over the city.
There was a similar ceremony in
Valparaiso.—Reuters.

Nature holds secrets
of chemistry
which man can
only crudely
imitate

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A perfect product
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It's great digestive
properties, its life
and delicacy,
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OR
192, NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON

The Best in the Colony

Also dealers of all kinds of
CAMERAS & FILMS.Mystery Fires
In FranceParis, March 13.
A 45,000-volt transformer
exploded today at Beauror,
near Lille, Northern France,
causing France's second pow-
er station fire in a week.The flames spread rapidly
to several 15,000-volt trans-
formers and firemen fought
for hours to control the
blaze, which caused damage
estimated at about £10,000.
The area was without power
today.On Tuesday night, the out-
buildings of France's largest
hydro-electric plant at Goniat,
on the Rhone, were ex-
tensively damaged by a fire
of unknown origin.—Reuters.CRITICAL WEEK IN
ATLANTIC DEFENCE

Washington, March 14.

This will be one of the most critical weeks of all in
negotiations of the North Atlantic Military
Alliance.Denmark, Iceland and Italy are expected to draw
closer to a formal line up with the Atlantic
treaty powers. Portugal may be a question
mark.The text of the proposed treaty will be made public
on Friday. That may be the signal for a new
outburst of Russian attacks.Diplomats in Washington say
the Russians will leave no trick
untried to try to defeat the Al-
liance or split off one or more
nations.Communist leaders have al-
ready thrown down the challenge
to Premier Alcide de Gasperi's
anti-Communist Government in
Italy. That may be the big test-
ing ground. Similar opposition
may develop in France.However, France is already in
the line-up of Atlantic treaty
powers. Her diplomats partici-
pated in negotiations from the
start. Others already in are Brit-
ain, Norway, Canada, Belgium,
the Netherlands, Luxembourg and
the United States.Next in line and expected to
join is Denmark. Iceland has a
delegation on the way to Wash-
ington by plane. The subject of
Italian membership is up for de-
bate before the parliament in
Rome. It has already been ap-
proved by de Gasperi's Cabinet.Portugal may yet come in.
(Ireland has declared it will not
join.)

Portuguese Bases

The position of Portugal in
the Atlantic makes it of great
importance in the proposed
new defence system. Washing-
ton diplomats say there is
plenty of time for Portugal to
act but there is no firm indica-
tion that it will.Denmark, Iceland and Portugal
control strategic island air base
positions in the Atlantic. Den-
mark controls Greenland. Por-
tugal holds the Azores.The Icelandic Foreign Minister
Bjarni Benediktsson said Iceland
has not decided whether to join
the alliance.The Danish Foreign Minister,
Gustav Rasmussen, was again at
the U.S. State Department on
Monday and Tuesday. He will
probably fly back to Copenhagen
on Tuesday night.

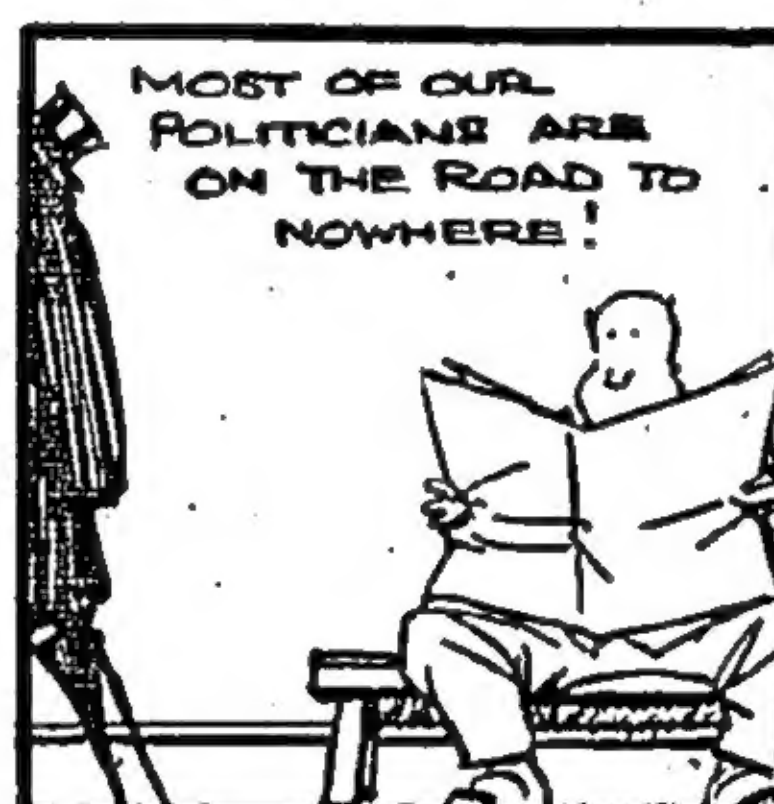
Talks with the Icelanders prob-

CANADIAN
PLAN FOR
INDONESIA

Lake Success, March 14.

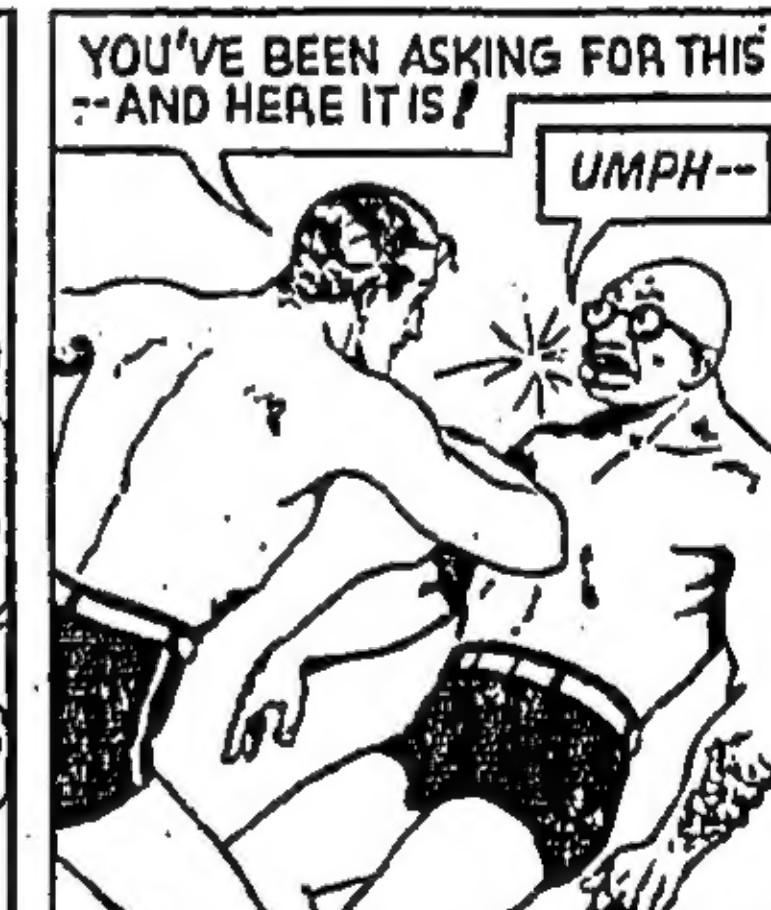
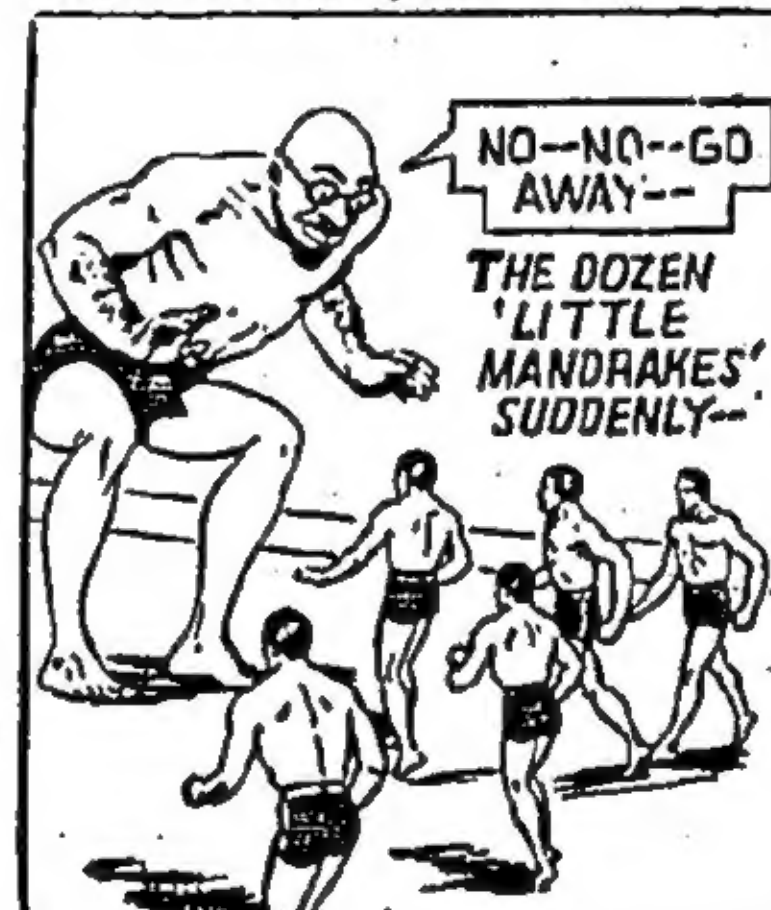
A new Canadian plan to end
the political deadlock in the
Indonesian case is developing
among UN Security Council
delegations.Various delegations are ready
to back Canada's suggestion that
the U.S. Commission for Indone-
sia should try to clear the way
for a round table conference to
settle the question. The Councillands-Indonesian dispute today.
The Netherlands started the
idea of a round table conference.
The Indonesian Republic refused
to attend because its exiled lead-
ers have not been restored to
their capital as demanded in a
Security Council resolution.Canada's plan is to have the
U.N. Commission in the Far
East and Indonesians to agree
on a time and conditions for a
round table conference.The Council's resolution order-
ed the Netherlands to restore the
Republic's exiled leaders to Jog-
jakarta, their capital in Java, as
the first step toward a transfer
of sovereignty. The Dutch re-
fused to do this. They said vio-
lence and chaos would result.—
Associated Press.ably will open on Monday. Later
in the week an Italian delegation
is expected to establish direct
contact.The only other prospective
development of importance
will be the final action by the
French Cabinet on the treaty
text.Diplomats said the text needs
only final approval of the Gov-
ernment before being made pub-
lic.The pact will be signed in
Washington in the first week of
April. Shortly after that it will
go to the U.S. Senate for ap-
proval before the President can ratify
it for America.—Associated Press.

POP



MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



RIP KIRBY

By ALEX RAYMOND



HONG KONG

and THEATRE

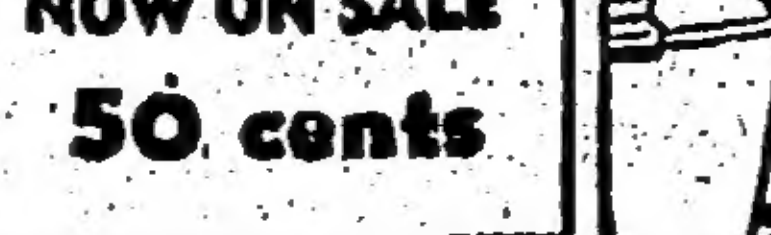
NEWS

MARCH

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SAILINGS TO

"FUKIEN"	Keelung, Kobe & Yokohama	7 a.m. 16th Mar.
"FOYANG"	Yokohama & Kobe	10 a.m. 16th Mar.
"HUNAN"	Inchon & Tientsin	10 a.m. 18th Mar.
"ANHUI"	Amoy, Swatow, Hailow, Saigon, Singapore, Balawan & Penang	10 a.m. 16th Mar.
"TSINAN"	Swatow	3 p.m. 16th Mar.
"HUPEN"	Shanghai	4 p.m. 17th Mar.
"HEIKICH JESSEN"	Amoy, Swatow, Hailow, Saigon, Singapore, Balawan & Penang	5 p.m. 21st Mar.
"POYANG"	Bangkok	1st week April

Sails from Cuddalore Wharf

ARRIVALS FROM

"TSINAN"	Swatow	9 a.m. 15th Mar.
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RIVER SERVICE

"FATSHAN"	Hongkong/Canton	Canton/Hongkong
	DEP. Hongkong	ARR. Hongkong
	11 p.m. 18th Mar.	7.30 a.m. 21st Mar.

Agents: BLUE FUNNEL LINE

SCHEDULE SAILINGS TO LIVERPOOL via Aden & Port Said.

"CLYTONEUS"	via Havre	8th Apr.
"ASTYANAX"	via Genoa, Marseilles & Glasgow	24th Apr.

Arrivals from

"CLYTONEUS"	U.K. via Straits	In port
"ASTYANAX"	"	29th Mar.
"TYNDAROS"	"	1st April
"EUMAEUS"	U.K. via Straits & Manila	8th April

NEW YORK SERVICE

Arrivals from

"AJAX"	U.S.A. via Manila	19th March
"AGAMENNON"	U.S.A. via Manila	22nd March

Carriers option to proceed via other ports to load and discharge cargo.

Agents: Australian-Oriental Line, Ltd.

Sailings to

"BOOCHOW"	Sandakan, Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne	4 p.m. 15th Mar.
"SHANSI"	Sydney, Melbourne & Brisbane	3rd Week April

Arrivals from

"SHANSI"	Australia & Manila	2nd Week April
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M.V. "HONGKONG" 船輪江香

H.K. DEPARTURE:

10 p.m.	16/3/1949
10 p.m.	18/3/1949
10 p.m.	20/3/1949
10 p.m.	22/3/1949

TUNG ON WHARF

CANTON DEPARTURE:

9 p.m.	15/3/1949
9 p.m.	17/3/1949
9 p.m.	19/3/1949
9 p.m.	21/3/1949

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TAI CHING SHIPPING CORP., LTD.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE

DEFLATIONARY TREND CONTINUING IN U.S.A.

New York, March 13.

The deflationary trend in American business and industry continued this week.

Prices averaged somewhat lower and the deflationary trend extended to some products heretofore unaffected—the two cents a pound drop in lead prices for example.

Industrial production held up well considering seasonal factors and weather conditions.

The steel industry was steady, although other barometers of business conditions showed some irregularity.

In some quarters, however, business was regarded as bad—particularly in the film industry in the United States and England. Conditions were regarded as so bad overseas that a delegation from the British motion picture industry plans to visit the U.S. to ask help from depressed Hollywood.

The New England fishing industry reported that foreign competition, especially from the Canadian maritime provinces, has created a tight situation around Boston and New Bedford.

The domestic watch making industry has been declining for some time. This is becoming

worse because of the additional amount of Swiss watch movement imported from Japan.

Nearing Normal

There was additional evidence that the steel industry is filling demand so well that it now is possible to buy almost any kind of material without paying a premium.

These and other signs indicate that the U.S. is nearing normal peace-time conditions.

Unemployment probably gained some ground as a result of a sizeable quota of factory closings or reducing working schedules, but there is evidence that this problem is easing. A number of plants which closed earlier this year have reopened.

Labour unrest again was widespread. It was a preview of things to come when major contracts expire or are examined again—such as in the steel, motorcar and coal industries. Wide areas of disagreement continued between the railroads and thousands of Union employees.

BRITISH STEEL MEN IN U.S.

Washington, March 14. Fifteen British steel founders arrive in New York in the Queen Mary today to study American industrial methods. It will be the first of about 30 such British industrial groups to come to the U.S.

They will exchange ideas on production techniques with American industrial executives, foremen and workmen. The British steel group is composed of four foundry managers, six technicians and five labour representatives. Associated Press.

Stock Market

The operating rate was 101.4 per cent of rated capacity. Production totalled up to 1,669,300 tons. The previous high was 1,863,000 tons in January.

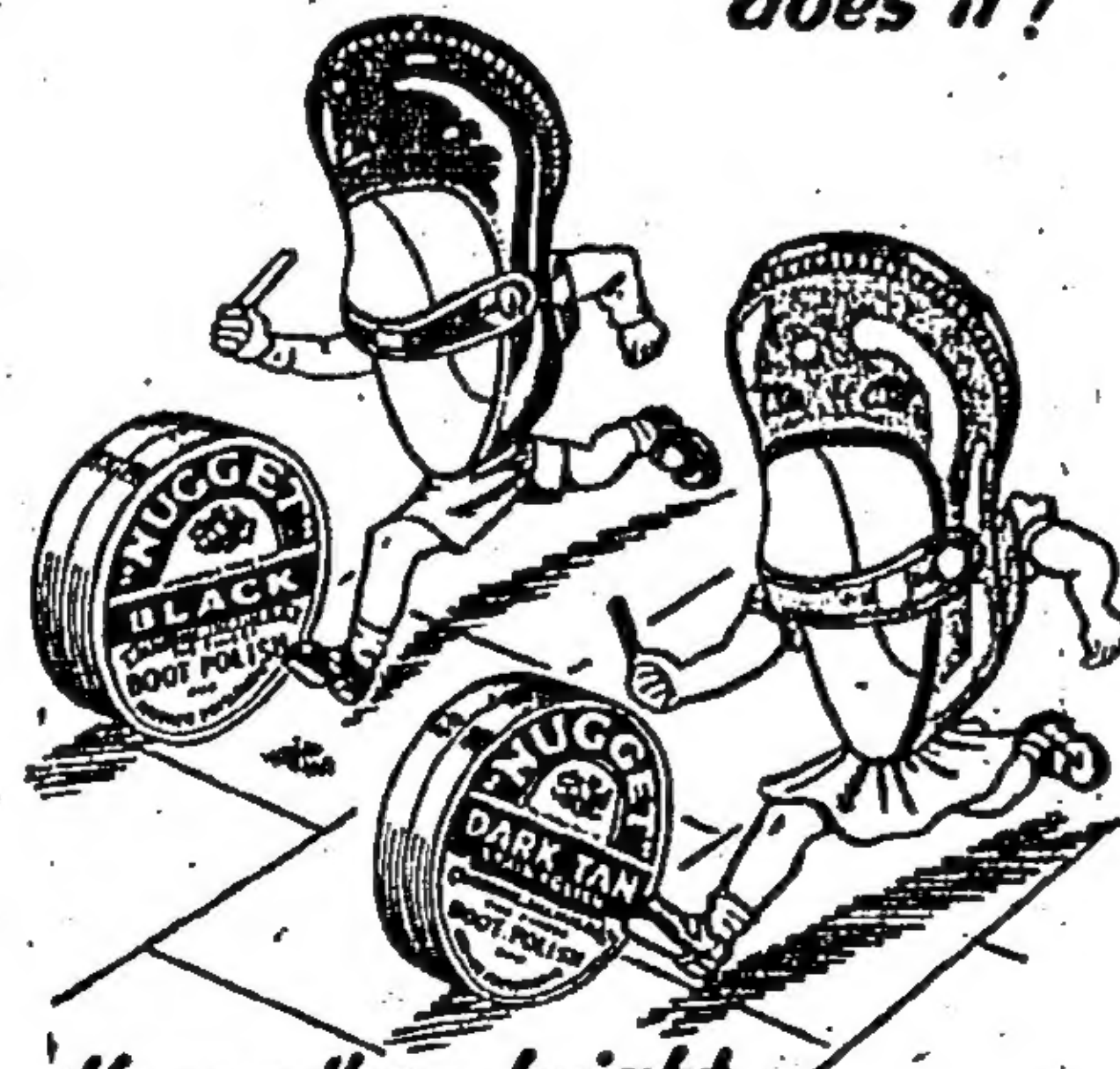
Motorcar production totalled 113,003 units, a decrease of nearly 6,000 from last week. Crude oil production also declined—to the lowest point in more than a year.

Freight car loadings were slightly higher than last week. Business loans by banks dropped for the seventh consecutive week. At US\$15,147,000, these loans were at the lowest since last September.

NEW TRADE PACT

Prague, March 13. Czechoslovakia and Albania signed a trade agreement here yesterday under which Czechoslovakia proposes to provide Albania with machinery in exchange for Albanian raw materials. Reuter.

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"does it!"



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JAVA-CHINA SERVICE

Arrivals	Sailings
"MITJALENGKA" from Shanghai & Amoy 16th March.	Javaports & Macassar 17th March
"FASMAN" from Manila & Amoy 18th March.	to Manila 19th March
	to Javaports & Macassar 31st March.
"TJISADANE" from Macassar & Javaports 17th March.	to Shanghai 19th March
	to Manila 28th March
	to Javaports & Macassar 14th April.
"TJIBADAK" from Macassar & Javaports 1st April.	to Shanghai 3rd April
	to Manila 12th April
	to Javaports & Macassar 28th April.

ASIA-AFRICA-S. AMERICA SERVICE

Arrivals	Sailings
"TJIPANAS" In port	to East & South Africa 23rd March.
"STRAAT MALAKKA" from Japan 30th March.	to East & South Africa & South America, 31st March.
"BOISSEVAL" from South America & South Africa, 31st March.	to East & South Africa & South America, 21st April.
"STRAAT SOENDA" In port.	to East & South Africa & South America, 18th May.
"TEGELBERG" from South America & South Africa, 13th June.	to East & South Africa & South America, 17th June.

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Transshipment cargo on through B/L to Dar-Es-Salaam.
Zanzibar accepted on all sailings.

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Arrivals	Sailings
"VAN HEUTSZ" from B. Deli & Singapore 24th March.	to Straits & B. Deli 2nd April.
"VAN RIEMSDIJK" from B. Deli & Straits 8th April.	to B. Deli & Straits 17th April.

Agents: HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

Arrivals	Sailings
"ZIJNEER" In port	to Europe via Manila & Straits 15th March.
"MELIKERK" from Japan & Shanghai 28th March.	to Europe via Manila & Straits 28th March.
"MARIEKERK" from Europe Early April.	to Europe via Manila & Straits, Mid April.
"MOLENKERK" from Europe Early May.	to Europe via Manila & Straits Mid May.

Transshipment cargo on through B/L accepted to Indian, Mediterranean and Northern European ports.

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on through bills of lading.

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BY S.K. LEE

Lesson 30.

Vocabulary:		
160. (tui) dui	A pair. Opposite. To face.	
161. (kaal) haaye	Shoes.	
162. (mat) mut	Socks. Stockings.	
163. (cheung) cheung	Long. Length.	
164. (tuen) duen	Short.	
165. (laan) laan	Broken. Rotten. Worn-out.	
166. (leng) leng	Over-ripe.	
	Beautiful. Handsome. Pretty.	
Useful phrases:		
(19) Dui m. jue.	Sorry. Excuse me. Pardon me.	
(20) Dzik huk.	Immediately. At once.	
Combinations:		
1. Dui meen.	Opposite side.	
2. Ngaw dui kul wah.	I say to him.	
3. Dui jue.	To be facing.	
4. Yui dui haaye.	One pair of shoes.	
5. Gay cheung?	How long?	
6. Cheung mut.	Stockings.	
7. Cheung shaam.	A gown.	
8. Duen shaam.	A jacket.	
9. Dui laan.	To break.	
10. Cheuk laan.	Worn out.	
Conversation (1):		
S. Seen shaang yau yun	Someone has come to see you.	
lai geen nay.	Shall I tell him to come in?	
Geeoo kul yup lai		
hoh mah?		
M. Kui jeuk mut yeh	What clothes is he wearing?	
shaam neh?		
S. Kui jeuk geen laan	He is wearing a worn-out	
duen shaam.	jacket, an old pair of short	
jeuk teoo gau duen	trousers	
foi		
jeuk dui laan mut,	and worn-out socks	
jeuk dui laan haaye.	and shoes.	
M. Aw! Nay wah kui jee!	Oh! Tell him that.	
ngaw m hai shue lah!	I'm not in.	
Conversation (2):		
S. Seen shaang yau yun	Someone has come to visit you.	
lai wun nay.		
Tseng kui yup lai		
hoh mah?	Shall I invite him in?	
M. Kui jeuk mee yeh	What clothes is he wearing?	
shaam neh?		
S. Kui jeuk geen leng	He is wearing a fine gown, a	
cheung shaam!	new pair of trousers	
jeuk teoo sun' too		
jeuk dui leng mut,	and nice socks	
jeuk dui leng haaye.	and shoes.	
M. Aw Deem gaayc nay	Oh! Why don't you invite him	
m	in immediately?	
dzik huk! tseng kui		
yup lai neh?		

Filibuster On Filibusters

Washington, March 13.
Leading Democratic Senators, who are trying to work out a compromise on President Truman's civil rights programme, which has split the party in two and blocked other legislation, adjourned their meeting today without agreement.

A spokesman said afterwards: "We have reached no understanding but we believe we are making

GOOD SIAM RICE

The Rice Controller announced yesterday that during the rationing period from March 16 to 20 a special issue of good Siam rice will be made, in lieu of A1 broken, at one catty a person at 80 cent a catty.

progress.

The compromise talks began after the Southern Democrats, aided by the Republicans, had filibustered Mr. Truman's efforts to ban filibusters, by which legislation can be "talked to death."

The talks will probably continue tomorrow.—Reuter.

STATES MARINE LINES

FAR EAST SERVICE.

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Duo Hongkong 15th March, 1949

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Abduction Sentence On Woman

Hong Hoi-lin, aged 31, wife of a fisherman, was charged at Central yesterday with abducting a 14-year-old girl, So Sui-mui.

Inspector J. F. Galvin, prosecuting, stated that on March 2, during the absence of the girl's mother, Kwok Yat, defendant took So to Shumchun.

So escape to 10, Island Road, where her mother and defendant were co-tenants.

Defendant was arrested shortly after the girl's return.

Before Mr. W. H. Thomas, defendant pleaded that So willingly went with her to get a job. Defendant's husband, So Fook, told the magistrate that he knew nothing about what she had been doing, because he was in hospital.

"I had provided her with what she needed before I went to the hospital," he said, "I don't think I would like her to come back, though we have been married only for two months."

She was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and recommended for life banishment.

'Red Fleet' On American 'War Plans'

London, March 14.

The Russian Navy Journal "Red Fleet" declared today that the United States is creating strong naval positions at both ends of the Mediterranean Sea and digging in North Africa.

"These bases are meant as a springboard for aggression against the Soviet Union," it said. The article, distributed here by the Soviet monitor, said that according to American plans Turkey must play the role of Eastern naval bridgehead, while Franco Spain is to play the part of a Western naval fortress.

The journal added that submarines and destroyers received from the United States have already dropped anchor at reconstructed naval bases in Alexandria, Mersin and Izmir (all in Turkey).

"However, realization of these aggressive schemes comes up against the growing resistance of the peoples inhabiting the Mediterranean countries. They do not intend the Mediterranean to become an American lake.—Associated Press.

Notice To Consignees

Consignees Per

s.s. "BENVORLICH"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co.'s godown, where it will be at Consignees' risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and conditions of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke, at 10 a.m. on March 17, 1949.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations Consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted, after the goods have left the steamer's godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after March 19, 1949, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before April 3, 1949, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

W. R. LOXLEY & CO. (CHINA) LTD., Agents.

Hong Kong, March 14, 1949.

Notice To Consignees STATES MARINE LINES FAR EAST SERVICE

Consignees per Steamer "GARDEN STATE" are hereby notified that their cargo will be discharged into Kowloon Godowns, where it will be at Consignees' risk and subject to terms and conditions of storage at Kowloon Godowns. Cargo will be ready for delivery from the Godowns on and after March 15, 1949.

Optional cargo will not be landed here, unless notice has been given prior to steamer's arrival, but carried on from port to port to the final port of call to which the option extends.

Damaged packages must be left in the Godown for examination by the Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke at 10 a.m. on March 19, 1949.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations Consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's Godown, and all goods remaining undelivered after March 21, 1949, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the Steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before April 6, 1949, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

GOURLIE & CO. (H.K.) LTD., Agents.

Hong Kong, March 14, 1949.

MAERSK LINE

Notice To Consignees

The m/v "GRETE MAERSK" having arrived from New York and Ports of call, Consignees of Cargo are hereby notified that their goods are being landed and placed at their risk and expense into the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Company's godowns at Kowloon, where delivery may be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

Optional cargo will not be landed here, unless notice has been given 48 hours prior to vessel's arrival, but carried on from port to port to the final port of call to which the option extends.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after March 21, 1949 will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on March 18, 1949 at 10 a.m. by our Surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations Consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

All claims must reach us before April 14, 1949, or they will not be recognized.

No Insurance will be effected.

JEBSEN & CO., Agents.

Hong Kong, March 14, 1949.

Notice To Consignees

S.S. "ELPENOR"

Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed at Holt's Wharf between 10 a.m. and noon on March 16 and 17, 1949, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hong Kong, March 15, 1949.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

HOLLING

P. & O. S. S. & A.

BILLS OF LADING

Meist. Goddard & Douglas will attend at 10 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays within the time storage period to survey damaged cargo, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present. Unless consignees' representatives are present at the survey no claims can thereafter be admitted.

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"President Madison" (calls Shanghai) Apr. 1
"President Pierce" Apr. 14

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"President Tyler" (Direct to Pacific Coast) Mar. 31

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"President Harding" Apr. 16

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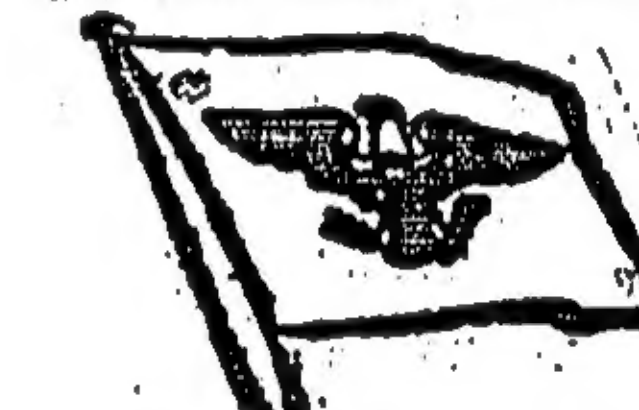
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"PIONEER BAY" Apr. 11

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"BENALBANACH"	Japan	Abt. 18th March.
"BENCLEUCH"	U.K.	2nd half Mar.
"BENROACHAN"	U.K.	2nd half Mar.
"BENMACDUIH"	U.K.	1st half Apr.
"BENWYVIE"	U.K.	2nd half Apr.

SAILINGS

SHIP	TO	LOADING
"SALMONIER"	Kobe, Hongkong, Singapore, Colombo.	17th March.
"BENALBANACH"	London, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Hull.	Abt. 21st Mar.
"BENCLEUCH"	London, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Hull.	2nd half Mar.
"BENMACDUIH"	Liverpool, Havre, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Hamburg & Hull.	2nd half Apr.
"BENWYVIE"	Genoa, London, Hull & Leth.	Abt. end April

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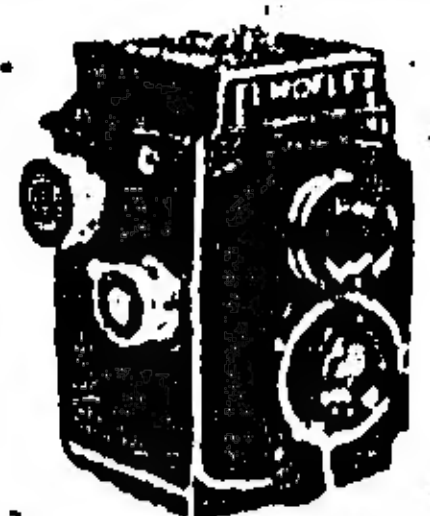
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BIGGEST EVER EXODUS OF FOOTBALL ELEVENS

London, March 13.

The biggest exodus of British soccer teams to all parts of the world will be witnessed at the end of the present season.

Almost daily, the English Football Association receives requests from League clubs for permission to make close season tours. Several Scottish and Irish clubs have also got the wanderlust.

Scandinavia appears a popular choice. Portsmouth, the team of the English season, are to tour Denmark and Sweden. Huddersfield, now making a gallant effort to extricate themselves from the First Division relegation zone, are also going to these two countries, and Holland as well.

Sweden will be the destination of Brentford if the London Second Division club can finalise plans, while Manchester City, the premier League side, are to visit Denmark.

Danish fans will probably miss the pleasure of seeing Frank Swift's wizardry in goal for he is considered certain to be chosen for the England team which will be touring the Continent at the same time.

For Turkey

Derby County, Blackpool and Tottenham Hotspur are among the other clubs interested in invitations from Scandinavia.

Dutch fans will have an opportunity of comparing the difference between English First and Third Division soccer for, in addition to Huddersfield, the little Northern club, Queen's Park Rangers, intend to pay a return visit.

Another London club, Charlton Athletic, who won the FA Cup in 1947, are also booked for Turkey to play four matches.

Fulham, now engaged in a bold challenge for promotion to the First Division, are to visit Spain. Their invitation is in return for transferring their centre-half, Jack Watson, to the Real Club of Madrid.

Spain, too, may see Burnley and Chelsea, both of whom are considering offers. Incidentally, Barcelona Club is reported to have invited Yeovil Town, the Cup "killing" team, to fly to Spain for a fixture on March 27.

The other gallant little Cup fighters, Hull City, are going North to Iceland. The Cup holders, Manchester United, now at the top of their form, will not be seen on the Continent, for they have turned their attention West for a proposed visit to Rost.

One of the most widely travelled League sides, West Ham United, are anxious to make their 24th tour. They have so far played in 71 different Continental towns.

Swiss offers appeal to Liverpool, who last summer went across to Canada and the United States. North American tourists this year will be Newcastle United, the Irish club, Belfast Celtic.

South America, too, has sent out invitations. Mexico and Brazil have both made attractive offers to the League champions, Arsenal. Mr. Tom Whittaker, their manager, told Reuters that the Brazil offer probably will be accepted.

Chosen are also considering a trip to Brazil. Many other nations have requested the Football Association to arrange for clubs to visit them, so by the end of the season the list of tours is expected to be the greatest in the history of English soccer.

New Dixie?

The famous cry "Give it to Dixie," always heard at Goodison Park, Liverpool while W.R. "Dixie" Dean led the Everton attack, may again be heard on a football League ground in a few years' time.

Geoffrey Dean, son of the celebrated England centre-forward, is showing much promise as an outside left for his school in Chester. He surprised even his father, now a Chester publican, by his accurate centering in a recent school match.

Dean is now impressing on his son the necessity of becoming expert in kicking with either foot, and not relying too much on his left leg.

Dixie Dean, an adept at scoring goals with his head, still holds the English League individual scoring record with 370 goals, scored from the seasons 1923-24 and 1933-39. His 60 goals in 39 League games in the 1927-28 season is a Division I record. In that season, Dean scored a total of 82 goals, including International, Cup and representative games.

James McGregory, of Glasgow Celtic, scored 410 goals in Scottish League football, and his total in all first-class matches was 550.—Reuters.

Football Fixtures

The following soccer games will be played during the coming week-end:—

SATURDAY, MARCH 19.

1st Division

Kil Chee v St. Joseph's; Navy 4.30 p.m.; Referee: J. Ward; Linesmen: P. Collins and P. George.

Army v Navy; Sookumpoo 4.30 p.m.; Referee: R. M. Omar; Linesmen: D. P. Lai and A. Ribeiro.

South China "A" v Eastern; Caroline Hill 4.30 p.m.; Referee: Capt. Chinnell; Linesmen: J. Day and Mak Young-Fai.

Kwong Wah v K.M.B. Boundary 4.30 p.m.; Referee: J. G. Pudley; Linesmen: A. F. Willis and H. Richardson.

Club v South China "B", postponed.

CAA (bye).

2nd Division

Navy v Club; Navy 3 p.m.; Referee: P. Collins; Linesmen: J. Day and Mak Young-Fai.

Army-HK v Dockyard; Sookumpoo 3 p.m.; Referee: D. P. Lai; Linesmen: J. G. Pudley and H. Richardson.

Kil Chee v PCA; Caroline Hill 3 p.m.; Referee: J. Day.

CAA v WD Chinese, Boundary 3 p.m.; Referee: A. F. Willis; Linesmen: J. G. Pudley and H. Richardson.

St. Joseph's v Army-Kil; Army 3 p.m.; Referee: F. A. Barretto.

University v Tramways; Cancelled.

Eastern v Police; Cancelled.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20.

Governor's Cup Final

HKFA v CNAAP; Club 4 p.m.; Referee: W. Gaffney; Linesmen: J. Ward and A.E.P. Guest.

(Duration of match will be 90 minutes. An extra time ten minutes each way will be played in the event of a draw).

2nd Division

South China v Taikeo; Caroline Hill 3 p.m.; Referee: W. Crawford.

JOCKEY CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT

The Jockey Club yesterday announced the following alteration to the Classification List:—

To Class 1 (Ponies of 1949): High Speed.

To Class 2 (Ponies of previous seasons): Seafire, The Chief.

To Class 3 (Ponies of previous seasons): Jeep King, Victorious.

To Class 4 (Ponies of previous seasons): A Grand Time, Jump Bill, Marber, Souvenir, Winder.

To Class 5 (Ponies of 1949): Forever Spring.

To Class 7 (Ponies of previous seasons): Al Fresco, Corrie Doo, Rosemarie, Sapientia, Strathmara, Sulphur.

To Class 7 (Ponies of 1949): Busy Bee, Radiator.

To Class 8 (Ponies of 1949): Hop Yick, Sharpshooter.

Minor Alterations To Yacht Club Rules

(By "RUBBINGSTRAKE")

The Sailing Committee has decided that since Saturday afternoons are no longer normally required for Team Events, races for the open Dinghy Halmmen's Series shall be held except on Ladies' Race days (i.e. the third Saturday of each month).

A new notice, which incorporates all amendments, amplifications and additions to the Club handbook, will be posted on the Sailing Notice Board before Saturday. It includes certain minor alterations to present practice and will be in force forthwith. It cancels all other amending notices and instructions.

There has been a good response to the drive for more names for the Star Halmmen's list and nearly a dozen have been added this week-end. It is now to be hoped that the new recruits will start taking the boats out. The dinghies also have plenty of room for new blood. With many of the so called tigers of the class sailing Redwings, now is an excellent time for the beginner to start his racing career.

A good many idols crashed in the Ladies' Race on Saturday which was won by Miss Blackmore. In the series one lies third with 82 points while Miss Dewar now shares the first place with Miss Spencer Cooper with 85.

The points scored in the Star series by those who have sailed two or more races are as follows: The number of races sailed is given in brackets:—

Von Sydow	33 (8)
Yourieff	21 (3)
De Goede	13 (3)
Hecdering	11 (3)
Smith	11 (3)
Robertshaw	9 (2)
Kay	7 (3)
Hancock	6 (2)

Similarly the open dinghy points are:—

Howell	105 (4)
Robertshaw	84 (3)
Furrer	76 (3)
Millett	75 (3)
Hancock	58 (2)
Mackay	51 (2)
De Goede	47 (2)
Bailey	46 (2)
Fell	41 (2)

WEEK-END RESULTS

Dragons:—	
1st Pudge Pop	120.40
2nd Ectacy	121.10
3rd Starters	
1st Symphony	143.18
2nd Ectacy	140.21
3rd Starters	
1st Miss Blackmore (8)	111.40
2nd Miss Spencer-Cooper (5)	112.50
3rd Miss Loeby (11)	118.37
4th Starters	
1st Yourieff (7)	204.40
2nd Von Sydow (1)	205.42
3rd Starters	
1st Miranda	129.45
2nd Jaspueet	135.02
3rd Ghost	140.04

Further matches were played in the Men's Fourmen competition and this has now reached the semi-final stage with Messrs. Heath and Cowperthwaite to play Messrs. Bathurst and Barry in the top half and Messrs. Linaker and Smalley playing Messrs. W. C. Hung and Suen in the lower half.

Entries for the G.M. Young Cup close on March 20. The G.M. Young Cup presented by Mr. G.M. Young in 1927, to be a perpetual Challenge Cup and to be played for between teams (at present of four players) from any Bank or Firm; match play; all matches to be played out to the 18th hole; Singles and Foursomes; Singles to count one point and foursomes two. In the event of a tie on points the match is decided by holes.

The Ladies' Annual Meeting is being held at Fanling on Monday, March 21, and Tuesday, March 22.

CAPTAIN'S v SECRETARY'S	
0 Robb v Wallace	1
0 Gilman v Collins	1
1 Cowperthwaite v Bathurst	1
0 Cauley v Walker	1
0 Mitchell v J.B. Mackle	1
0 J.D. Mackle v Goldman	1
0 Morris v Barry	1
1 Suen v Hung	1
0 Stewart v W.C. Hung	1
1 Pugh v Ho	1
0 Douglas v Prophet	1
0 Linaker v Hunter	1
0 Carter v G. Robertson	1
1 Linaker v Sommerfeld	1
1 Redmond v Lydall	1
0 Heath v Bone	1
0 Gordon v Cleland	1
1 Sainsbury v D. Hung	1
1 Jackson v Stubb	1
0 Davidson v Tan	1
0 Alton v Whetton	1
0 MacIntyre v Tan-Prombe	1
1 Wong v Pringle	1
0 Patterson v Nicholas	1
1 Pattinson v Miller	1
1 Kite v Chai	1
1 Wallen v Vauhan	1

12 Singles Total	171
0 Gordon-J.D. Mackle v Bathurst	1
0 Barry v J.D. Mackle	1
1 Cowperthwaite v Bathurst	1
0 Walker v Lydall	1
0 Gilman v Collins	1
0 Mitchell-Suen v J.B. Mackle-Goldman	1
1 Suen v Hung	1
0 Stewart v W.C. Hung	1
1 Pugh v Ho	1
0 Douglas v Prophet	1
0 Linaker v Hunter	1
0 Carter v G. Robertson	1
1 Linaker v Sommerfeld	1
1 Redmond v Lydall	1
0 Heath v Bone	1
0 Gordon v Cleland	1
1 Sainsbury v D. Hung	1
1 Jackson v Stubb	1
0 Davidson v Tan	1
0 Alton v Whetton	1
0 MacIntyre v Tan-Prombe	1
1 Wong v Pringle	1
0 Patterson v Nicholas	1
1 Pattinson v Miller	1
1 Kite v Chai	1
1 Wallen v Vauhan	1

15 Foursomes Total	14
12 Singles Total	171
27 Grand Total	185

FRANK PARKER'S DECISIVE WIN

Cairo, March 13.

The American, Frank Parker, today won the Egyptian men's singles lawn tennis championship. He beat his compatriot, Budge Patty, in three straight sets, 6-2, 9-7, 8-6.

Parker's superior score easily won him the first set. But the second set was closely contested by both players winning their services. Parker consistently drove deeply and rushed to the net either to kill or play drop shots. His kills were good but his drop shots were weak throughout the set. However, he finally broke through to take the set.

In the third set, Patty was visibly tired but struggled hard. The games went with service until Parker was serving and he finally won the set and the match.

Parker's machine-like tactics repeatedly earned him applause from a crowd of more than 4,000 spectators.

Observers expressed the opinion that Parker's play throughout the tournament was better than anything previously seen in Egypt.

After the match, Parker said: "I am very glad to have won the championship." Patty said: "Parker played too well."

The final of the mixed doubles was won by the Franco-American team, Miss Nelly Landry and Budge Patty who beat the Italian pair, Mrs. Annlie Bushi and Gianni Cucelli, 5-7, 6-3, 7-5, after a thrilling match.

The women's doubles title went to the Anglo-French team of Miss Nelly Landry and Miss Joy Gannon, who beat Lebanon's Miss Vera Mettar and Mrs. Mary Brown of Egypt, 6-3, 6-2.

Australia's Jack Harper and Germany's Baron Gottfried von Cramm won the men's doubles title by default as a result of the Czech player, Jaroslav Drobny, retiring from the championship, with an attack of lumbago.—United Press.

Badminton Standards Showing Big Advance

London, March 14.

The Thomas Cup competition and the All-England badminton championships have taught all lovers of the game some valuable lessons, the chief among them being that the game, as it is played by the experts today, is far in advance of what it was before the war.

The average club player in Britain was flabbergasted by the brilliant play of the "masters" of today.

The following facts emerged from these events: First, that today as a nation, Malaya is number one, second, that the greatest player of today and of all time is Dave Freeman of the United States, third, that the Americans are going to be a threat to the world in this game as in any other game they take up seriously, fourth, that the Danish women players are in a class by themselves, fifth, that the Indians are only a shade behind their Malayan rivals and lastly, the England, for decades the number one nation at this sport, has slipped.

Malaya had a close call against the United States at Glasgow and it was tough and go whether they won the inter-zone final. It has, however, to be taken into account that Wong was injured and below his best form and that Law struck an off day. Furthermore, the Malaysians must have been more affected by the change of climate than the Americans and doubtless in their own country, the men from Malaya, would have been even harder to beat.

There is the belief now in this country that the Thomas Cup has left the West for a very long time, the view being taken that the Malaysians will be unbeatable in their own country.

Of the spare, little Californian doctor, Dave Freeman, it can be said, and the Malaysians will readily agree, that he has no peer. He is not a man but a machine. He has very strong strokes to perfection and his footwork and stamina is such that "what goes over comes back."

This lean player, a shade under six foot, is a natural player, whose skill has been increased by proper tuition and persistent training. He neither smokes nor drinks. Dr. Freeman is an extremely likeable man, modest and charming and while he has his little court peculiarities, like shouting "stupid" to himself when he becomes human and errs, these are extremely good, humorous and cause no offence.

He is a great sportsman as well as a great player.

Both Martin Mendez and Carl Loveday in the singles, and Wynn Rogers in the doubles, were at times brilliant but they were like the proverbial curate's egg, "good in parts."

They had nothing like the consistency of their champion, nor the concentration, nor the fitness (not that they were untrained), nor the very fine downy hair of Rogers was at his best, but he was erratic.

Obviously, a country which employs proper coaches, like America and makes a real effort to take the sport seriously, is going to be a real threat to any nation, no matter what the sport is.

Tsuis Have Easy Win

The following are the results of yesterday's tennis games at the Cricket Club ground:

COLONY OPEN DOUBLES

Lee Wai-tong and K.H. Ip beat Ho Ka-lau and Pang Oi-lam, 6-2, 6-1.

Tsui brothers beat D.J. Leonard and L.F. de Souza, 6-2, 6-1.

B.T.M. CLUB SINGLES

B.T.M. Jones beat G.B. Smart, 6-3, 6-1.

P.H. Bonnerman beat A. Furrer, 6-1, 6-1.

R. Segalen beat Dr. H. Meyer, 6-4, 6-4.

TODAY'S GAMES

COLONY OPEN DOUBLES

Court 1: F.M. Ribero and T. E. Rodrigues v Tsui brothers.

Court 2: Lee Yue-wing and Wong Shiu-wing v Lee Wai-tong and K.H. Ip.

CLUB SINGLES

Court 3: J.D. Mackle v D. Nolan.

Court 4: B.T.M. Jones v P. H. Bonnerman.

Court 5: J.B. Hawthorn v R. Segalen.

Court 6: J.L.C. Pearce v M. Heenan.

TURPIN LOSES

Triste, March 13.

The Italian middleweight champion, Tiberio Mitri, defeated Belgian middleweight Empire Littleholder, Dick Turpin, on points in a 12-round match here last night.—Associated Press.

A meeting of the Interport Rubber Committee of the Hong Kong Football Association will be held at the Association's office at 5.15 p.m. tomorrow to select the Manila Interport team.

PULLING TO FIGHT BUCKS

When Bob Pulling, of the Royal Navy, and Ramsey Bucks, Lightweight Champion of Hong Kong and Shanghai meet in the ring at The China Fleet Club on April 2, boxing fans are likely to be treated to one of the best flat bouts of the season.

Pulling possesses an impressive record and during his stay in the Colony, has met all comers, in respective of weight, height or reach. In all contests in which he has taken part, Pulling has proved his superiority.

The following is Pulling's record as a boxer in the Service: RNVR Champion of Great Britain (Featherweight Division 1938) and South Division Champion of Great Britain (Lightweight Division 1939).

Mediterranean Fleet Lightweight Champion 1941/43.

Inter-Services Welter and Middleweight Champion 1947/48.

Rumour has it that this will be Pulling's last fight in the Colony as apart from the fact that he is getting on in years, he is due to leave the China Station in June 1949.

Pulling is most anxious to retain his unbeaten record and is training seriously for his six round fight with Ramsey Bucks, who is an opponent of no mean calibre.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE

(Continued from Page 11)

SOUTH EAST PORTS

May 14 PRES. JEFFERSON (APL) Manila.

SOUTH AMERICA

Mar. 31 STRAAT MALAKKA (NIL).

April 2 BOISSEVAIN (NIL).

May 18 STRAAT SOENNA (NIL).

June 17 TIGERBERG (NIL).

ROUND THE WORLD

March 22 PRES. MONROE (APL).

April 1 PRES. BUCHANAN (APL).

16 PRES. HARDING (APL).

19 PRES. VAN BUREN (APL).

May 14 PRES. JEFFERSON (APL).

26 MARINE SNAPPER (APL).

June 14 PRES. POLK (APL).

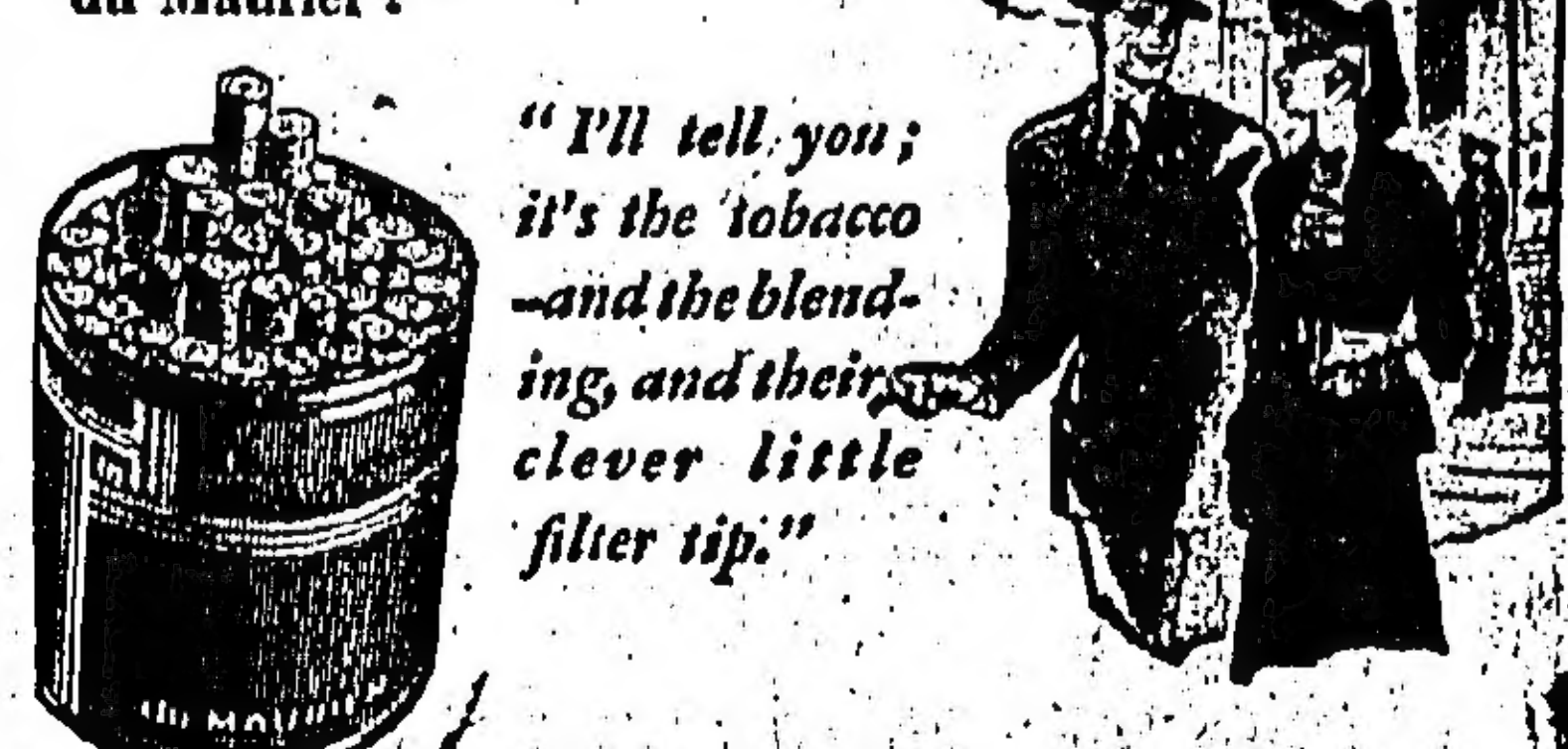
"I enjoy them best of all"



"You always did do everything in the grand manner, even to your cigarettes."

"But du Maurier aren't an extravagance! A great luxury, I grant you, but that isn't quite the same thing."

"I wonder what is the secret of the rich, cool fragrance of du Maurier?"



"I'll tell you; it's the tobacco—and the blending, and their clever little filter tip."

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